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LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN

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VOYAGES AND TRAVELS

OF HER MAJESTY,

CAROLINE

QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN:

INCLUDING

VISITS TO VARIOUS PARTS OF GERMANY, FRANCE,
ITALY, GREECE, PALESTINE, &c. &c.

AND COMPRISING THE LATEST DESCRIPTION OF THOSE
INTERESTING COUNTRIES,

*With Remarks on the State of Society, Religion, Manners, Customs,
Antiquities, Arts, Literature, Natural Curiosities, &c. &c.*

BY ONE OF HER MAJESTY'S SUITE.

THE WHOLE EMBELLISHED WITH
PICTURESQUE VIEWS, &c.

—◆—
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TRAVELS AND VOYAGES

OF THE NARRATIVE

CAROLINE

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON GAZETTE

AND THE LONDON STANDARD



BY THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON GAZETTE

OF THE LONDON GAZETTE

AND THE LONDON STANDARD

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JONES & CO.

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VOYAGES AND TRAVELS

OF HER MAJESTY

CAROLINE QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

&c.

CHAPTER I.

Departure of the Princess and suite from London.—Arrival at Brighton.—Embarkation on board the Jason.—Departure from the English Coast.—Society on Ship-board.—Anchor in the Elbe.—Arrival in Hamburgh.—Description of that city.—Departure.—Arrival at Bremen.—Description.—Mummies exhibited in the vault of the Cathedral.—Verden described.—Historical and Geographical account of Zell.—Arrival at Brunswick.—Reception.—Description of Palaces, &c.—Caverns in the Hartz-country.

ON the 9th of August 1814, Her Majesty CAROLINE Queen of England, (then Princess of Wales,) and suite, departed from London for Brighton, in order to proceed to Germany and other parts of the Continent of Europe. The Princess's suite consisted of Lady Charlotte Lindsay and Lady Elizabeth Forbes, Maids of Honour; Colonel St. Leger and Sir William Gell, Chamberlains; Captain Hesse, Equerry; Dr. Holland, Physician; and master William Austin, her Royal Highness's protégée. Besides

the ladies and gentlemen here enumerated, there were others, who filled various departments in Her Royal Highness's household.

The Princess and suite arrived at the Steyne Hotel at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon; but Captain King, of the Jason frigate, not being in readiness to receive her, Her Royal Highness gave orders to proceed to South Lancing, two miles from Worthing, where she went on board the Jason, in Captain King's own barge. From the barge the Princess viewed, with mingled regret, sorrow, and benevolent feeling, the vast concourse of spectators, who had followed her to the beach, on foot, on horseback, and in carriages. She repeatedly kissed her hand to the assembled multitude, who, with sorrow on their countenances at seeing her quit the land of her early hopes, waved their handkerchiefs aloft, in token of attachment to her person. These signs of regret, and encouragement to repose her fortunes on the love of her future subjects, deeply penetrated the Princess's heart. A few tears fell, but, hastily brushing them aside, her Royal Highness turned her head towards the ship, which was in readiness to receive her on board. In the barge's progress to the frigate, the deepest silence prevailed; and this not being interrupted by the spectators on shore, the parting was truly affecting.

On ascending the ship's side, the Princess contemplated the scene before her: with tearful eyes she beheld England retiring from her view; and

with her hands raised towards heaven, she implored a blessing on its inhabitants. After a short time had elapsed in these mournful duties, the Princess retired to her apartment, where, in secret, but with her manifold sorrows bursting on her afresh, she renewed her prayers for the welfare of the generous and noble nation, whose coasts were every moment becoming more distant.

The Princess, having been prevailed on to take some refreshment, retired to rest. Next morning she was observed to have considerably recovered her usual spirits; and the weather being particularly fine, the whole party greatly enjoyed the voyage. As every possible mark of respect was religiously and willingly paid to Her Royal Highness by all on board; and as the arrangements had been such as to render her situation comfortable and pleasant, the Princess had leisure to mature her future plans of travelling on the Continent.

She conversed cheerfully with the several distinguished members of her suite; but when any subject was touched upon, which involved a recollection of her own misfortunes, or her daughter's future prospects, she was observed to heave a deep sigh; after which she was usually silent for a few minutes. Every means, however, were used, and with success, to divert Her Royal Highness's attention from the consideration of former events. The elasticity of her mind, or rather, her habitual serenity, was soon evinced by

the facility with which she seemed to forget her own misfortunes; also by conversing freely with her attendants on many subjects of science and art, and on various matters which bore no immediate nor remote relation to her own interests. Some of her suite were exceedingly surprised to hear an English Princess descant on the uses of various articles belonging to a ship of war; whilst others, who had been travellers in their youth, were no less astonished at her geographical information, and the retentive powers of her memory; which were frequently exercised in correcting the mistakes of her distinguished companions, relative to the situation and boundaries of various districts of Europe. Nor were her powers dormant when natural science was the subject of conversation. On the several topics of natural history and philosophy, she exhibited a mind replete with solid information.

This general development of the powers of her mind was entirely divested of pedantry: but although the conversation was free for the whole company to join in, still the Princess so far preserved a becoming dignity and reasonable reserve, as prevented the least approach to undue familiarity. In fact, the Princess of Wales has always been looked up to, by those who were near her person, more in the light of a kind and considerate parent, than in that of an austere mistress. Thus in our little circle, no one (save the unfortunate Princess) could be unhappy for a moment;

for the desire to please transfused into our minds by Her Royal Highness, was so *contagious*, and so general, that every one congratulated himself on his good fortune in being honoured by her acquaintance. Alas! how different are the practices of other Courts,—where every vice, where every folly is sanctified by being enshrined in Royalty!—where the crowned imbecile from the cradle of state, graciously nods on his fawning flatterers, in token of approbation of their servility!—where the royal ear is poisoned by the slanders of the sycophant;—and where Virtue scorns to dwell!

Nor were the Princess's cares restrained within the confines of innocent amusement, or personal interest. No: her soul was ever open to the distresses of the unfortunate. Two accidents (one of trifling import) happened during the voyage; and certainly no individual in the ship felt more anxiety for the health of the sufferers than the Princess of Wales. But her generous feelings were not confined to mere anxiety; the contents of her purse were the constant reward of attention to the welfare of the sick.

Her Royal Highness generally spent a part of each day in private reading and meditation; and as the education of master Austin was entirely under her own superintendence, it may be imagined that time did not hang heavy on her hands. In this round of mutual instruction and amusement did we pass the whole time of our voyage until the Jason anchored in the Elbe.

The Princess and suite remained in Hamburgh only three days, in which time they visited the principal places in and without this great commercial city. The Recorder and other magistrates paid Her Royal Highness every attention befitting her rank; and many of the principal inhabitants vied with each other in preparing entertainments in honour of her arrival in their city.

But the Princess, being anxious to proceed to Brunswick, declined many civilities offered to her, contenting herself, for the present, with merely viewing the city; the following observations on which were made during her short stay there.

HAMBURGH is a free imperial city, independent of any other power but the Emperor of Germany, to whom it pays homage. It is distant about seventy miles from the influx of the Elbe into the ocean, and properly, situated on the rivers Elbe, Alster, and Bille. The Elbe at Hamburgh, including the islands on which part of the town stands, is not less than four English miles wide, forming two spacious harbours, and running through most parts of the city in canals, which, being generally pretty broad and deep, are of great convenience to the merchants, whose houses stand on them. Some of the warehouses are from five to seven stories high, and, owing to want of cellaring, even their wines are kept in upper floors. The merchants make their halls into ware-rooms, and they live upon the first floor. In the canals, as well as in the river itself, even to the distance of

twelve or sixteen miles above Hamburgh, the tide ebbs and flows twice a-day. This is serviceable to the inhabitants, but subjects them to inundations, when the wind blows strong at north-west; at which time, the lower buildings and cellars are filled with water. There are eighty bridges over the canals, many of them paved like the streets, and on a level with them, houses being built on each side. Within the city are many water-mills and wind-mills, six sluices, and six large markets. The streets are for the most part of considerable breadth, but the houses recommend themselves more by their inward conveniencies, and by the gardens with which they are interspersed, (but more especially by their situation for trade,) than by any outward ornaments of architecture. Some of the streets have a good appearance; but on the other hand several of them are very narrow and crooked. The walls form a circle of nearly five miles and a half, and the number of inhabitants, exclusive of Jews, is estimated at one hundred thousand.

In Hamburgh there are many charitable institutions. The house of correction is a very large building, and the persons committed to it, (among whom are all who are found begging in the streets,) are employed in various kinds of labour, particularly in rasping Brazil and other kinds of wood. The Waysenhaus is a place where orphans are maintained and educated; the Pesthof, where lunatics are confined, and these sometimes to the

number of one thousand; the Pockenhaus, where those are received who are afflicted with contagious disorders; and the Spenhaus, where prostitutes and such-like offenders are reformed. Many others are instituted for the relief of the deserving poor; so that not a beggar is seen. There is one place where children are educated, gratis; and another where unmarried women may be admitted for a small sum, and maintained during life. There is also an institution for the redemption of seafaring persons taken by the corsairs of Barbary; with others no less deserving of commendation. To all these charitable foundations Her Royal Highness ordered several handsome donations. With respect to fires, such regulations are made that every one knows the part he is to act; the town being regularly watched, and wise precautions being taken to prevent fires from breaking out.

The fortifications of this city are in the old Dutch style; viz. a high wall and a vast ditch, made deep and wide, with some outworks; the ramparts being lofty, covered with grass and planted with trees, and of such a breadth that several carriages may go a-breast. On these ramparts any one is at liberty to take the air.

The Hamburgerberg may be styled a suburb, but it is not environed by any works: the houses in it extend almost as far as Altona, (a town belonging to Denmark,) so that a ditch merely separates the one from the other.

To the city are some capital gates ; but these are not so much frequented as the two entrances by water from the Elbe, that is to say, the upper and lower basons. Through the latter all ships pass, going to, or coming from sea. Every morning at the opening of it, is seen a multitude of boats and small barks, whose cargoes consist of milk, fruits, and all kinds of provisions, all rushing in at the same time ; and in this manner the country people, together with a great number of others on the land side, daily bring in part of the subsistence necessary to the city. In the north of the town is another entrance by water, which, in this part, runs into the city, so as to form a kind of lake ; and is included within the fortifications. Here, in summer time, the inhabitants amuse themselves in barges, some of which have cabins, and are called arks. Near this port too, up the river Alster, is a walk, consisting of a double row of trees, of considerable length, which in summer evenings is crowded with people, and is called the Young Ladies' Walk.

The churches of Hamburgh, with their lofty steeples, make a grand appearance. There are nine capital churches, in all of which is something worthy of notice ; such as tombs, splendid altars, organs, and paintings. The houses are chiefly built with a bad-coloured brick, and the city appears, on the whole, not more elegant than Bristol, though much larger.

The burghery of Hamburgh is divided into five

parishes, according to the five principal churches; and the magistracy is composed of thirty-six persons, with a recorder at their head. It is above two hundred years, since Lutheranism has been the established religion of this city; and none other, except the Jewish, is tolerated. But Roman Catholics, and Calvinists, have an opportunity of attending the worship of the envoys of the emperor and other sovereigns.

Hamburgh is so occupied by trade and manufactures, that scarcely any diversions are to be met with, except billiards, coffee-houses, and concerts. The principal merchants have private concerts at their houses; but there is an inelegance throughout every thing,—some few houses, of the more wealthy inhabitants, excepted. The highest appearance of luxury in this city, or, at least, of unnecessary expence, is, in the entertainments given at taverns, at weddings, christenings, burials, &c. In these, many of the wealthy expend large sums; and they entertain at the death, as well as at the birth, of their relations. This city, on the whole, is not a place where a stranger would resort for pleasure, for the people are enveloped in trade. Their numerous markets afford but indifferent provisions; their meat is not excellent, and their fish not of the best sort.

Formerly the principal occupation of the inhabitants (commerce excepted) consisted in brewing, and making cloth. At present, the chief manufactory is refining of sugar. The cotton

stocking, gold thread, riband, and velvet manufactures here, with others, are much esteemed abroad. With respect to its several branches of commerce,—linen, cloth, silk-ware, wine, sugar, coffee, colours, spices, metals, tobacco, wood, leather, grain, dried and salt fish, train oil, and furs, are accounted the most considerable. The exchange is always crowded at one. This building is half covered and half open, being composed of an area or square, surrounded with covered piazzas.

Hamburgh is, without comparison, the most flourishing commercial city in all Germany. Except London and Amsterdam, there is hardly a port in which so many ships are constantly seen.

This city may be said to abound in libraries, every church having one. There are many public schools also: in a word, few places equal it in its several institutions for the liberal and religious education of youth. Among the fine arts, music is particularly encouraged; painting also is not without its admirers and connoisseurs; and it were well for the public, if architecture and mechanics were a little more in vogue. There is a city militia, consisting of five regiments, belonging to the five parishes. The regular forces consist of twelve companies of infantry, and one troop of dragoons; also a company of artillery. The night-guard, like a regular corps, has its several officers, parades every evening, and calls the hours.

In some houses of the rich merchants, are seen taste, cleanliness, magnificence, and even at times

profusion ; nor is there a place in the world where there are more refinements in sensual pleasure. They collect from all points of the compass, what every country produces peculiar to itself, and costly for the table. Few assemblies of Parisians are more brilliant than the parties which meet in villas here ; but they scarcely play so high. The Hamburgers of the higher class are more jovial, more happy, more conversible, and more facetious, than the Saxons. As most young people are sent abroad to form trading connexions in the several ports, of London, Petersburgh, Calais, Bourdeaux, &c. in all which the Hamburgers have houses ; a stranger is sure to meet with some persons who are acquainted with his native country. The women of this place are handsome, genteel, and freer in their manners than they are generally in protestant countries.

One of the great pleasures of this city arises from the Alstersluss, before alluded to. It comes from the north, passes through the middle of the city, and forms a lake in it nearly eight hundred paces in circumference. In a summer evening this lake is almost covered with gondolas, which have not such a melancholy aspect as the Venetian ones ; they are filled with families, or other parties, and often have boats in attendance upon them, with music. The whole has an astonishing good effect, which is still greater from there being a much-frequented public walk by the lake ; the

liveliness of which corresponds, very pleasingly, with that of the people on the water.

Near the city are some villages on the Elbe, called the Four Lands, which are, in summer, also a rendezvous of pleasure. The farmers, who live in these villages, are in very good circumstances, and take a prodigious sum of money from the town, for their excellent vegetables. Every day, during the summer, parties from the city resort here, who are as conspicuous for their genteel appearance, as for their excesses in eating and drinking.

The country round about Hamburgh, though a flat, is extremely pleasant; the various and flourishing agriculture gives it a very gay appearance, and the water contributes much to its beauty. Notwithstanding the quantity of water, and the low situation, the air is very good.

Every thing having been got in readiness for the Princess's departure, the whole party left Hamburgh on the fourth day, for Bremen, the capital of the duchy of that name, and about fifty-five miles south-west from Hamburgh. They arrived in Bremen the same night, and were greeted on their entrance by the acclamations of many of the inhabitants. Next morning, after breakfast, the Princess proceeded to view the town, and was greatly gratified, not only by the curiosities of the place, but by the general respect with which she was received by all classes of the people.

BREMEN stands in a fruitful plain; it is an ancient,

large, populous, flourishing city, and fortified by nature as well as by art; the whole country being easily laid under water by cutting the banks of the Weser, which frequently overflows its banks, and enriches the sandy soil about it. It has a gymnasium under seven masters, an episcopal palace, a chapter-house, containing two hundred dwellings, an orphan-house, and two abbeys. The cathedral has the controul of fourteen country parishes, and this belongs to the king of Great Britain.

The chief curiosity here is some human bodies wonderfully preserved without embalming. Under the cathedral church there is a vaulted apartment, supported on pillars, nearly sixty paces long and thirty broad; the light and air are admitted into it by three windows, though it is several feet beneath the level of the ground. There are five large oaken coffers, each containing a corpse.

The most curious and perfect is that of a woman. Tradition says she was an English countess, who, dying at Bremen, ordered her body to be placed in this vault uninterred, in the apprehension that her relations would order it over to her native country: they say it has lain here two hundred and fifty years. Though the muscular skin is totally dried in every part, yet so little are the features of the face sunk or changed, that nothing is more certain than that she was young, and even beautiful. It is a small countenance, and round in its contour: the cartilages of the nose, and the nostrils have undergone no alteration; the teeth are all

firm in their sockets, but the lips are drawn away from over them; the cheeks are shrunk in, but yet less than in embalmed bodies. The hair of the head is more than eighteen inches long, very thick, and so fast, that one of the party heaved the corpse out of the coffin by it; the colour is a light brown, and as fresh and glossy as that of a living person. That this lady was of high rank seems evident from the fineness of the linen which covers her body. A gentleman of Bremen, who was present, said that he remembered it for forty years past, and during which time there was not the least perceptible alteration in it.

In another coffer is the body of a workman, who is said to have tumbled off the church, and was killed by the fall. His features evince an accident of this sort most forcibly. Extreme agony is marked in them, his mouth is wide open, and his eye-lids the same; the eyes are dried up. His breast is unnaturally distended, and his whole frame betrays a violent death. A little child, who died of the small-pox, is still more remarkable. The marks of the pustules which have broken the skin on her hands and head, are very discernible; tho' one would suppose that a body which died of such a distemper, must contain in a high degree, the seeds of putrefaction. There are in this vault, likewise, turkeys, hawks, weasels, and other animals, which have been hung up here from time immemorial, and are in the most complete state of preservation; the skins, bills, feathers, being all

unaltered. The cause of these phenomena is doubtless the dryness of the place. It is in vain to seek for any other. The magistrates do not permit any fresh bodies to be brought in, and there is no other subterraneous chamber that has the same property. It would have made an excellent miracle in proper hands, two or three centuries ago; but mankind are now grown too wise.

Bremen is situated on the same river as Verden, but here it is known by the name of Weser. Vessels of burden lie twelve or fifteen miles below the city, there not being sufficient depth of water higher up. It contains forty-five thousand inhabitants, and, it is said, would exceed even Hamburgh in commerce, if the river was not an impediment. It is a free city, under the protection of the emperor, but, on the money struck here, it styles itself a republic. The king of England, as elector of Hanover, has however some important rights within the place; and not only the cathedral belongs to him, but a considerable number of buildings, public and private. He possesses likewise a species of supreme judicial power; for, though the magistrates take cognizance of all crimes within the territory of Bremen, his delegate must pronounce sentence.

Most of the streets are narrow, but many of the buildings make a handsome appearance, and the shops are full of merchandize. In the market-place is the figure of a giant fourteen feet high, clothed in armour; and is said to represent a general who

saved the city when it was in the utmost danger from its enemies. The great dome of the cathedral before noticed, which is devoted to the Lutheran religion, is the most remarkable structure in the place. It is built in the Gothic style, and as was observed possesses the quality of preserving the bodies of the dead from corruption.

The vicinity of Bremen being subject to inundations, a long causeway is raised for the convenience of travelling.

By the municipal laws, all the race of Abraham is excluded from trading or residing here; each Jew being obliged to pay a duty of a ducat (near ten shillings) a day; so that not one is seen. Plutus and Bacchus are the chief deities venerated in this city, and, like the senate in the time of Tiberius, they will not admit the gods of strangers. Pleasure under every shape, of dance, of comedy, and of masque, they have a dislike to. The most polite manner of spending an evening, known for several centuries past at Bremen, has been that of meeting in small boxes about twenty feet long and six wide, in the public cellar, where they drink hock under a cloud of smoke raised from their own pipes. Women, the only venial objects of idolatry, seem not here to hold any rank in society, or to form the connecting charm which binds the jarring principles of human nature together.

Bremen carries on a large trade in iron, flax, hemp, and linen, with France, England, Spain,

and Portugal; taking back other provisions, with which it supplies Westphalia, and the countries about Hanover. This city is celebrated for old hock; the wine is all brought here from the banks of the Rhine, by land carriage, and deposited in the public cellars, which are wonderfully capacious, running beneath the town-house and exchange.

Every thing having been prepared, Her Royal Highness and suite pursued their route next morning; and breakfasted at Verden, a town in the duchy of that name, situated about five miles south-east from Bremen.

The duchy of VERDEN is small, about twenty-four miles square. It consists chiefly of heath, and high dry land, but has good marsh land near the rivers Weser and Aller. The city of Verden is seated on the Aller, and contains five churches. The cathedral is an object of some curiosity, from the remote antiquity to which its foundation ascends. It is said to have been first erected in the year 786, by Charlemagne, after his conquest over the Saxons. The portraits of all the bishops from that era to 1556, when the Lutheran religion supplanted the Catholic, are painted on the walls of the choir. The first of them was, as it appears by the inscription over his head, a saint, a count, and an abbot, but, notwithstanding all his titles, secular and ecclesiastical, he was murdered soon after his investiture, by the Pagan Saxons, who paid no sort of deference either to his coronet or crosier. The present cathedral is

not so old as Charlemagne ; it was built about the middle of the fourteenth century, the former one having been reduced to ashes in 1313. An antiquarian might find ample food for investigation in it, the whole floor being paved with tombs, on which are effigies and inscriptions, many of which are now mutilated or illegible. Before the high altar is a mantle monument, of costly workmanship, erected to a Philip Sigismund, born in 1568, and who was both duke of Lunenburgh and bishop of Verden. The see is now extinct.

Verden was purchased by George I. from Frederick IV. king of Denmark, who had rendered himself master of it, during Charles XII's confinement in Turkey, to whom it previously belonged. The town contains only about five hundred inhabitants, exclusive of a battalion of Hanoverian soldiery. It has scarcely any trade ; the inhabitants therefore are in general very poor.

Having viewed the cathedral, the Princess and party set off for Zell ; to which place a courier had previously been sent, to order dinner.

ZELL is situated on a sandy plain, near the conflux of the Aller and the Enhse, twenty-four miles north of Hanover, and forty-seven south of Hamburg. The town is ancient, and consists of three streets, that run parallel ; it is well fortified, the ramparts being broad and high, and well mounted with cannon, but not regular. Here are held the chief courts of judicature for this duchy. In 1485 its duke (Henry) built a palace near that

called Hanover Gate, which is a square building, with four platforms at the four corners, moated round. Several coaches may go in front on the terrace round the town, which is adorned with trees planted all along; and the adjacent fine gardens, orchards, and grottos, form a very agreeable landscape. There is but one church in the town, and that without a steeple. The French refugees have their church in the suburbs, which are very large. All the buildings are of timber, except the churches, the castle, and the house of correction, which are of brick. The elector has a regency here, which judges all causes without any appeal but to the council of state at Hanover. Betwixt this town and Hamburgh it is a sandy road, with scarcely any thing but heath. The post-stages, which are of four miles, are very ill served, and the inns the worst in Germany. Though there is much heath betwixt this town and Hanover, yet the country is well cultivated; for the inhabitants not only make turf of the heath for fuel, but it also serves for pasturage and manure. There is a trade from hence to Bremen, by the river Aller.

The castle near the town is a stately building, surrounded by a moat, and strongly fortified. It was formerly the residence of the dukes of Zell, and was repaired by order of the king of Great Britain, for the reception of his unfortunate sister. The apartments are spacious and convenient, and handsomely furnished, but the country on every

side is barren, sandy, and unpleasant. About twenty miles from Zell, on the southern side of the river Aller, is the little palace, celebrated for the imprisonment of the electress Sophia, wife of George the First of England; where she died a short time before the accession of her son, George the Second. It is said that the latter once attempted to see his mother, whilst under confinement. Having separated himself from his attendants in hunting, he came unexpectedly to the palace; but those, to whose care she was entrusted, refused him admittance.

During the war in 1757, a most barbarous transaction reduced the inhabitants of Zell to great distress; for the Duke de Richelieu ordered not only the suburbs of Zell to be burnt, but even the orphan-house, which contained a great number of children. The whole was reduced to ashes, together with the innocent children who were its inmates!! This instance of cruelty is scarcely to be paralleled in all history.

In Zell, the royal party rested for the night; and about noon next day, set off for the Duke's palace at Brunswick.

From Zell the Princess and her suite proceeded to Brunswick, where Her Royal Highness had the felicity of embracing the Duke her brother. Here she was joined by another of her chamberlains, the Honourable Keppel Craven.

BRUNSWICK, the capital of the country of that name, and the residence of the Duke, lies on the

Oder, which enters the town by two branches, but within, it divides itself into a great number, uniting again in one stream as it leaves the town. The fortifications are pretty strong ; and, on some occasions, have been of service to the place, particularly in 1761, when the city, though closely besieged, was relieved by Prince Frederick. The town is of a square form, and upwards of three English miles in circumference. It has a citadel, erected by the Duke of Brunswick Wolfenbüttele, when he conquered it in 1671. The duke's palace and the stadthouse are magnificent buildings ; the former of which is surrounded by a fosse, and contains a great number of apartments. The walls of every room are hung with prints, from the roof to within two feet of the floor. In the library of the palace is a valuable collection of scarce and curious Bibles, in various languages, to the number of one thousand volumes, collected by Elizabeth, widow to duke Augustus, in 1731. In this city is an opera-house and a theatre, some good public foundations, and several manufactories. The first spinning wheels were invented here, in 1530, by Jurgen, a statuary.

The academy at Brunswick is in considerable reputation, and students resort to it from many parts of Germany, and some have even been sent from Britain. Such as were intended for a military life could no where find more advantages united, than at the academy of Brunswick ; nor have fewer temptations to dissipation and expence.

The palace of SALTZDAHLEN stands above a German mile from Brunswick, and is chiefly constructed of timber, lined with painted cloth, which gives the apartments an air of grandeur at a small expence. The picture gallery is a noble apartment, and contains many capital productions of the pencil. The left wing is furnished in a grotesque taste, with porcelain; and another is filled with painted enamelled-ware, a great part of which is said to have been executed by Raphael d'Urbino, while he was enamoured of the potter's daughter.

Among the most celebrated paintings are, *Adam and Eve viewing the dead body of Abel, and trying to open his eyes;—Abraham embracing his son, after the trial which God had made of his faith;—Peter delivered from prison by the angel;—Judith and her attendant holding the head of Holofernes*, which still seems to retain the last traces of life;—*Cephalus and Procris*; and various others.

WOLFENBUTTLE is the chief residence of the duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbottle, and is also situated on the river Ocker, seven miles south of Brunswick, and thirty west of Halberstadt. It is surrounded by bogs and morasses, and strong by nature and art. This place is the strongest town in Germany. It is well fortified, and elegant in appearance. The public library is very considerable, and reckoned one of the most complete in Germany, containing upwards of two hundred thousand volumes, among which are many curious manuscripts, some of which were written by the two leaders of the

reformation, Lather and Calvin. In the palace there is a cabinet of porcelain, containing between seven and eight thousand pieces ; and in another smaller cabinet is shown a collection of coarse plates, valuable only on account of their having been painted after the designs of Raphael. The circumjacent country is very picturesque and pleasing. A person is agreeably surprised on beholding the number of seats and noble mansions ; a sight very rare in Germany, where, if one avoids the towns and courts, you may travel over a great extent of country, without perceiving houses for any order of men between the prince and the peasant.

Some of the Princess's suite having been informed of the existence of an immense but curious cavern, a few miles south of Brunswick, and situated in the Hartz Country, (the Hyrcanian forest of the Romans,) prepared to visit it.

The HARTZ is so cold a country, that the snow lies on its mountains till midsummer, and affords little corn ; but the valleys are filled with cattle. The inhabitants are strong and vigorous, and many of them live to a very great age. There are iron mines in the mountains ; one of which, called Brocken, or Broksberg, (the Bructerus of the Latins,) is reckoned the highest in Germany

Betwixt Blankenburg and Elbingerode, is the remarkable cave, called Buman's Hole, (from its discoverer, Buman) : it has a narrow entrance, but

no one ever found the end of it; though some of the miners have affirmed they have gone as far in it as Goslar, which is twenty miles. Large bones of strange creatures have been often found in it, which the neighbouring gentry kept as rarities; and, among others, the skeleton of a giant. There are two great rocks near the convent of Michaelstein, and not far from Blankenburg, which represent two monks in their proper habits, as nicely as if they were carved out, and therefore are called the Monks' Craigs.

Many castles are found in these countries on the top of inaccessible rocks, and some actually hewn out of the rocks; but they are not regarded. The most remarkable of them is that near Broksberg, which, the inhabitants say, was built three hundred years before Christ, by the Chauci, a branch of the Saxons, who had an idol and temple of Saturn here, which were destroyed by Charlemagne, who called the place Hartzburg. A salt-spring being discovered at the bottom of this hill, in the time of Julius, duke of Brunswick, he built a small town for the workmen, called Julius Hall, which is now grown rich and large, by the trade in salt, copper kettles and pots, wire, &c.

The people of this country are represented as the dullest in all Germany, and mere bigots to the institutions and customs of their ancestors.

CHAPTER II.

Departure from Brunswick.—Arrival at Hanover.—Reception.—Description of Hanover—Fortifications—Military Force—Palaces and Gardens.—Departure for Pyrmont.—Description of the Spa.—Accommodation for Strangers, &c.—The Princess takes leave of her Brother, the Duke, and proceeds on her Route.—Arrival at Paderborn—Description—Curious Springs.—Departure for Gottingen.—Description of the Country—Fortifications, Views, Walks, and University.

HER Royal Highness having viewed the *halls of her fathers*, and visited the scenes of her juvenile recreations; and having recognised many friends and relatives, for whom she had felt a lasting attachment from her youth upwards, the Princess resolved to proceed in her route for the present, and to return to Brunswick at a future period. In the mean time she invited her brother, the Duke, to accompany her to Hanover, which she proposed to visit, before she took her departure for Italy. According to previous agreement, Lady Charlotte Lindsay, and Colonel St. Leger, having taken an affectionate leave of the Princess, Her Royal Highness and suite immediately set off for Hanover, about twenty-seven miles south-west from the town of Brunswick. Here they arrived the same day; and, on their entrance into

the city, they were received with the highest honours.

HANOVER, the Metropolis, is situated in a sandy soil, on the river Leine, which is navigable here for small boats. It was anciently called Lawenroda, from a neighbouring castle, subject to the counts of that title. It is divided by the river into the New and Old Towns.

Hanover is regularly fortified ; and the ravelins before the gates are well mounted with cannon. The palace is a large structure of freestone, with several square courts, and a fine staircase. It is adorned with tapestry and paintings, and very richly furnished. Here is a cabinet of curiosities, with a noble collection of medals, ancient and modern ; and a very fine chapel. There is a considerable number of Roman Catholics ; but the nobility and gentry are almost all Lutherans. The princess Sophia caused a new church to be built here for the French refugees ; to which King William III. was also a benefactor. Besides a house for orphans, there is one hospital within the town, and another without. This city has acquired new lustre since the accession of the illustrious house of Hanover to the electoral college in the diet of the empire, but more especially since its advancement to the throne of Great Britain ; and is of particular note for the famous treaty concluded here in 1725, to counter-balance that of Vienna.

The fortifications are regular, and the works are

in excellent order. The troops are sober, and perfect in every part of their duty, though discipline is less strict than in other parts of Germany. The Hanoverian infantry, being all volunteers, do not make the same majestic appearance as some other German troops, because they are not select men; but it is allowed that no body of men can behave better in action; nor is desertion at all frequent among them.

In the environs are several rural seats, particularly one called the Fancy, or Whim; and another, Mount Brilliant, or Mount Pleasant, which were built by two sisters-in-law, Madame de Kilmansec, and the Countess of Platen. These lead to the pleasant palace of Herenhausen, a castle built on the river Leine, by order of the prince who was the first elector, about the same distance north from Hanover as the palace of Kensington is from that of St. James's. A straight walk leads up to the house, which is adorned with charming gardens; a wilderness of evergreens; one of the largest and noblest orangeries in Europe; a perfect theatre cut out into green seats, with arbors and summer houses on both sides of it, set off with fine statues, many of them gilt; and, above all, here are noble fountains, with very large basins, beautiful cascades and water-works, that throw the water much higher than the famous fountain at St. Cloud in France, which was always looked upon as the most considerable of the kind, till this was set up, by the direction of a very capital

English artificer, under the patronage of the Elector, in 1716.

On the third day from their arrival, the Princess and suite, with her royal brother, the Duke, departed for Pyrmont.

PYRMONT lies between the bishopric of Paderborn and the electorate of Hanover. The lower part of it contains an uncommonly beautiful and pleasant vale, which extends four miles in length, and as many in breadth. All around is environed by lofty green mountains. In this vale are the celebrated mineral springs and steel-waters. These waters are much frequented by persons of the highest rank. They are exceedingly palatable, and come nearest to the Seltzer waters, in their taste and other qualities. Pyrmont is about a day's journey from Hanover: to this place there is a very fine road, most part of the way, with very large and well engraved stones, every quarter of a German mile, mentioning the exact distance from Hanover; a circumstance very unusual on the continent. In the season there is much company from Hanover, and the other large cities in the north of Germany.

There is a very magnificent hotel or inn, for the accommodation of strangers, where the apartments are fitted up in the most modern taste, and the charges not so extravagant as the appearance of the outside of the building is magnificent. This hotel is much superior to any even at Spa. There is, as in most inns of Germany, an exceedingly

good *table d'hôte*, of two or three courses, with a variety of good wines at moderate prices. Were not the approach to this place, on the side of Holland and France, so exceedingly disagreeable, owing to the heavy sands of Westphalia, it would be much more frequented than it is at present. They have their public rooms every night, and their assemblies, and their pharobanks, as in other watering places, but every thing here is on a small scale, to what it is at Aix-la-Chapelle and at Spa; neither is the country round about it so diversified and picturesque. The country is more open and more level; nor are the mountains so finely wooded. On the contrary, the rooms where the company meet, lie, as it were, in a hole, near the spring head; and not only carry with them the appearance of great antiquity, but they are also very gloomy, and seem situated, as it were, in a swamp, surrounded with wood. For those, however, to whom the drinking of the waters is any inducement for repairing hither, there are but few watering places where they will meet with such excellent accommodations, more resources of amusement, or a greater variety of respectable company.

The Princess having, at Pyrmont, taken an affectionate leave of her brother, the Duke, proceeded to Paderborn, a town about eight miles distant.

The city of PADERBORN, which is one of the Hans-Towns, is a large, well-built, fortified, and

populous city. This city was imperial till 1604, when Theodore, its bishop, became both its spiritual and temporal sovereign. Some of its churches are magnificent. Its cathedral is a grand fabric, inferior to few in the empire. Otho II. gave a golden crucifix to it, of sixty pounds weight, to the value of sixty thousand gilders, or about eight thousand pounds sterling. The bishop's palace is a decent structure; but the bishops, when they vouchsafe to visit this small benefice, which is not very often, reside seven miles off, at Nienhus, a castle built in 1590. A university was founded here in 1592, by the bishop of Furstenburg; and though this city stands not far from the Lippe, which joins with the Ulme, near Nienhus; yet it has its name from the Pader, a rivulet which has its rise just under the high altar of its cathedral, and Born, *i. e.* a spring.

In the Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for December 1665, there is an account of a spring in this territory, which loses itself twice in twenty-four hours; but returns with a great noise, and such force, as to turn three mills not far from its source; for which reason it is called Bolder Born, *i. e.* Boisterous Spring. There is another remarkable fountain, called Methorn, two miles from Paderborn, which is a treble spring; two parts of which, not a foot and a half from each other, have very different qualities: the one limpid, bluish, lukewarm, and containing sal ammoniac, ochre, iron, vitriol, alum, sulphur,

nitre, and orpiment; the other cold as ice, turbid, and whitish, with much the same contents, but stronger in taste, and heavier, than the before-mentioned. It is said to be a perfect cure for worms. All fowls that drink it are immediately thrown into convulsions, but soon recovered by an infusion of common salt and vinegar. The third spring, which is about twenty paces from the other two, is of a greenish colour, but very clear, tastes both sour and sweet, and is supposed to be a mixture of the other two.

In Paderborn the Princess and suite took up their residence for the night, and next morning the party departed for Gottingen, where they arrived to breakfast.

GOTTINGEN is situated in a spacious, fertile, and pleasant vale, along the water called the New Leine, which is a canal drawn from the river of that name, the town being about one hundred rods from it. This capital separates the old from the new town; and, about the distance of a mile, joins the Leine again. The ramparts around the town, which are about six hundred and ninety rods in circumference, command a delightful prospect of gardens of all kinds, with meadows, fields, and eminences; and would form a most delightful walk, were the useless breast-works on it removed, and the wall levelled and planted with lime-trees. The town itself consists of upwards of one thousand houses, and about eight thousand people; and, since the erection of the university, has been so embellished

with new buildings, and the old so repaired, that it is, at present, one of the best built towns in all Lower Saxony; and for the fine free-stone pavements on both sides of its streets, may be said to have few equals. In winter the town is illuminated with lamps. It has five parochial churches, and one for the Calvinists. The Roman Catholics here celebrate worship in a private house.

The principal ornament and advantage of Gottingen is the university, founded in 1734, by George II. of England; which by the care of its curator, has acquired a very distinguished reputation and pre-eminence over the other universities of Germany, and indeed throughout the whole republic of letters. It has been full of Russian, Danish, Swedish, and English students. The library is one of the most capital, not only in Germany, but even in all Europe. A society of sciences, founded in 1751, and a royal German society, form part of the university. It has also a fine observatory, and an exquisite physic-garden; with an anatomical theatre, of ingenious construction; a school for teaching midwifery, and an academy of exercises.

CHAPTER III.

Arrive at Cassel—Description—Temple and Cascade of Wasenstein—Manners of the German Courts—Carnival—Theatre—Arrival at Marburg—Description—Account of the Teutonic Knights—Proceed to Frankfort—Reception—Description of the City—Curious Custom of the Inhabitants and Attachment to Psalm-singing—Mode of conducting Funerals—Condition and Treatment of the Jews—State of Society—Amusements—Government of the City, &c. &c.—Arrival at Darmstadt—Splendid reception—Grand Hunt given in honour of the Princess—Description of Hesse Darmstadt—Mode of guarding the Town, &c.—Arrival at Mentz—Description of that City—Mountain of Altoniger—Sublime View of the rising Sun from its summit—Cross the Rhine—Arrival at Worms—Description of the Country—Historical account of the City—Cathedral and Churches—Mint—Bones and Figures of Giants—Proceed to Manheim—Arrival at Heidelberg—Description—Holy Mountain—Famous Tun of Heidelberg—Proceed to Spire—Description and historical Account—The word Protestant—Arrival at Philipsburgh—Historical Account of that City.

THE Princess and suite, having left Gottingen, now entered the circle of the Upper Rhine, and arrived early in the day at Cassel, (twelve miles distant) the capital town of the Electorate of Hesse

Cassel. In this district, the air is cold, but not unwholesome. The water is good, and the soil excellent, yielding abundance of corn, and a considerable quantity of grapes. There are also large forests, containing much deer and other game.

CASSEL is situated on the river Fulda, and consists of an old and new town, connected by a handsome stone bridge which crosses the river. The old town, which is the largest and most considerable, forms a semicircle on a hill, and, like the lower new town, is old-fashioned; but the new town, (betwixt which and the old one lies the esplanade,) being planted with beautiful rows of trees, is very regular and handsome.

Besides the palace in the city, which is his winter residence, the Elector has several chateaux and castles in several parts of his territories. Immediately without the town is a beautifully constructed villa, in which he resides during the summer. Here are some very fine antique statues, of great value. There are also elegant parks and gardens, with an extensive orangery; and a well filled menagerie, containing a good collection of rare animals.

The academy of arts, situated in the new town, contains some valuable antiques and other curiosities, among which is a St. John in mosaic, done after a picture of Raphael. This tedious art of copying paintings in mosaic, has been brought to great perfection, particularly at Rome. They also shew a sword, which was consecrated by the pope,

and sent to one of the princes of this family, at his setting out on an expedition to the Holy Land. What havoc this sacred weapon made among the infidels we are not told, but it does not seem to be much worse for the wear.

Nothing in the country of Hesse is more worthy of the admiration of travellers than the Gothic temple and cascade at WASENSTEIN. There was originally, at this place, an old building used by the princes of this family as a kind of hunting-house. It is situated at the bottom of a high mountain, on the face of which is a series of artificial cataracts, cascades, and various kinds of water-works, in the noblest style that can be conceived. The principal cascades are in the middle; and on each side, are stairs of large black stones of a flinty texture, brought from a rock at a considerable distance. Each of these stairs consists of eight hundred steps from the bottom to the summit of the mountain; and when the works are allowed to play, the water flowing over them forms two continued chains of smaller cascades. At convenient distances, as you ascend, are four platforms, with a spacious bason in each, also grottos and caves, ornamented with shell-work, statues of Naiads and sea divinities. The water rushes from the summit of this mountain in various shapes: sometimes in detached cascades, sometimes in large sheets like broad crystalline rivers; at one place it is broken by a rock consisting of huge stones. There are also fountains which eject the

water in columns of five or six inches diameter to a considerable height : all this has a very brilliant effect, when viewed from the bottom. On the highest part of the mountain a Gothic temple is built ; and on the top of that an obelisk, crowned by a colossal statue of Hercules leaning on his club, in the attitude of the Farnese Hercules. This figure is of copper, and thirty feet in height ; there is a staircase within the club, by which a man may ascend, and have a view of the country from a window at the top. Wasenstein has not the air of a modern work, but rather conveys the idea of Roman magnificence.

The following relation of the style of living at the Court of Cassel will, with little variation, give an idea of the general practices at the German courts. About half an hour before dinner, we found all the officers assembled in a large room. The elector soon appeared, and continued conversing with the company till his consort, accompanied by the Princess of Wales and her ladies, arrived. The company then walked to the dining-parlour, where there were about thirty covers, and the same number in an adjoining room. The doors being left open between these apartments, the whole formed in a manner but one company. The repast continued about two hours, during which the conversation was carried on with some appearance of constraint, and rather in a low voice ; except when either of their highnesses spoke to any person seated at a distance.

After dinner the company returned to the room

where they first assembled. In this they remained till the Elector retired, which he did within a quarter of an hour afterwards; soon after the company separated till seven in the evening; when they again assembled, and cards were then introduced, and gaming continued about two hours. The Elector then saluted their Highnesses on both cheeks, and retired to his own apartment, whilst they and the rest of the company went to supper. At this repast there was less formality, and, of course, more ease and gaiety than at dinner. When Her Royal Highness rose from table, the Electress and most of the company attended her up stairs to a spacious anti-chamber, where she remained conversing a few minutes, and then retired. These general forms were the next evening varied by a concert in the Elector's apartments. There are also certain days of gala, distinguished only by the company's being more numerous than usual.

During the carnival there are two or three masquerades. On these occasions, the court assembles about six in the evening, the men in dominos, and the ladies in their usual dress, or with the addition of a few fanciful ornaments. They amuse themselves with cards and conversation till supper. During this interval, a gentleman of the court carries a parcel of tickets in his hat, equal to the number of men in company. These are presented to the ladies, each of whom draws one. Tickets, in the same manner, are presented to the men, who draw likewise, keeping

their tickets till cards are over. The officer then calls number one, on which the couple who drew that number come forward, and the gentleman leads the lady into the supper-room, sits by her, and is her partner for the rest of the evening. In like manner every other number is called. After supper the company put on their masks; her Highness is led into the ball-room; and the rest follow, each lady being handed in by her partner. The Electress and her partner walk to the upper end of the room; the next couple stop at a small distance below them; the third next to the second, and so on, till this double file reach the length of the room. From this arrangement one would naturally expect a country dance; but a minuet is all. The music begins, and the maskers, consisting of twenty or thirty couple, walk a minuet together. This being over, which is rather a confused affair, every one sits down, the Electress excepted, who generally dances nine or ten minuets successively with as many different gentlemen. She then takes her seat till the rest of the company have danced minuets; which being over, cotillions and country-dances begin, and continue till four or five in the morning.

Besides the company who sup at court, the rooms are generally crowded with masks from the town, some of whom are in fancy dresses, and keep themselves concealed all the time; and, although those who come from the court are known when they enter the ball-rooms, many of them slip out afterwards, change their dresses,

and return to amuse themselves by teasing their friends in their assumed characters, as is usual at masquerades.

The playhouse is neat, though small. The front gallery, with a convenient room behind, is appropriated to the court. When the prince or princess stands up, whether between the acts or during the representation, all the audience do the same. The Elector has a library 'well furnished with books and curiosities. In the great church are the monuments of his ancestors, in brass, copper, and marble, of very good workmanship. The cathedral, dedicated to St. Martin, is very spacious. There are four other churches, which have two ministers each, besides the soldiers' church, which has but one. There is a church likewise in the palace, for the worship of the court.

After a residence of two days at the Court of Cassel, the Princess, determining to pursue her route, proceeded towards Marpurg, a town about twelve miles distant; where the whole party arrived to breakfast.

MARPURG is a large and well-built town, with spacious streets: it has a large square adorned with a town house of curious architecture. It stands in a pleasant country, on the river Lohr. Marpurg was once an imperial city, but is now subject to its own lords. It is the chief town of Upper Hesse, and the seat of the supreme court of judicature. It has a strong castle on a hill, and is otherwise well fortified. The great church

is a very stately edifice, and contains some noble monuments. The University, which was founded in 1526, is one of the most considerable in Germany. The castle is separated from the town by the river. The Landgrave's palace stands on a rising ground, from whence there is a delightful view of the plains and valleys, beautifully intersected by rivulets; also of some very fine and extensive vineyards, which clothe the face of the hills. There is another fine prospect from the bridge. In the town there is a very stately edifice, called the Palace of the Commander of the order of Teutonic Knights. This order was founded in the year 1190, in Palestine. They were, at first, called Knights of the Virgin Mary, or brothers of the Teutonic House of our Lady of Jerusalem. They must be all Germans, and of ancient nobility. They are to bind themselves by vows to defend the Christian religion, and the Holy Land, and to protect and assist the poor and the sick. In the years 1226 and 1228, after they had been obliged to quit Palestine, they obtained a grant of all the lands they should conquer from the *Pagan Prussians*; whereupon they subdued all Prussia, Courland, Semigallia, and Livonia; but afterwards lost them all. The superior of this spiritual order is styled the Grand and Teutonic Master, Administrator of the Grand Masterdom in Prussia, Master of the Teutonic Order in Germany and Italy, and Lord of Freudendal and Eulenberg. He is a prince of the empire, and, as such, has a seat and

vote in the diets. Both Roman Catholics and Protestants may be invested with the order; and the Protestant knights are permitted to marry. The estates, which they are possessed of in Germany, were partly obtained by purchase, and partly by donation, and consist of what is properly called the Masterdom of Mergentheim, and twelve bailiwicks. The Grand Master is chosen by the chapter, consisting of the counsellors and commanders, the latter of whom are administrators and judges of the bailiwicks and commanderies; but in weighty matters, an appeal lies from them to the Grand Master. The counsellors and commanders are chosen by the chapter, the latter out of the former, and confirmed by the Grand Master. The arms and ensigns of this order are, an erect cross *sable* in a field *argent*; which arms, Pope Celestine III. granted to it. In the field is a cross, *or*, which was conferred by King Henry of Jerusalem; and in the centre is to be seen the imperial eagle, bestowed by the Emperor Frederick II. At each of the four corners is a lily, *or*, which was added to these arms by Saint Louis of France.

Having taken a cursory view of Marburg, Her Royal Highness and suite repaired to their carriages, which were in waiting, and immediately proceeded on their route. It being the Princess's wish to reach Frankfort that night, the whole cavalcade used the greatest speed, and arrived there about ten o'clock. The distance of Marburg

from Frankfort being about twelve German, or forty-five English miles, and the roads none of the best (though agreeably diversified by beautiful scenery) the Princess felt greatly fatigued, and immediately retired to rest: the ladies and gentlemen of her suite speedily followed her example.

On the following day, the Prætor, and other authorities of Frankfort, applied at the Princess's hotel, to pay their respects to Her Royal Highness. The Princess received them with that gracious affability which never fails to secure the affections and services of all who know her. The magistrates respectfully offered her their attendance to the public places of Frankfort; which Her Royal Highness courteously accepted. Several of the nobility also earnestly invited the Princess to their parties; but this Her Royal Highness, in a great measure, declined; as her stay in Frankfort was only to be for three days. The populace, too, evinced considerable curiosity to view the future Queen of England; and eagerly pressed round her carriage, as she proceeded to view the remarkable buildings, &c. in this fine city. The few observations, which our short stay in Frankfort enabled us to make, shall be given as concisely as possible.

The imperial and free city of FRANKFORT ON THE MAINE was anciently called *Francofordia*, that is, The Ford of the Franks; for the Franks used to cross the river here, in order to make their incursions upon the Saxons; on which account the latter, at length, built this city to

restrain their ravages. It is now called *Frankfort on the Maine*, not only on account of its being situated on that river, but to distinguish it from *Frankfort on the Oder*. It is eighteen miles east of Mentz, and twenty from the Rhine. It is spacious, populous, and opulent; one of the Hans-Towns, and the seat of the imperial diet. The river intersects and divides it into two parts, Frankfort and Saxenhausen, which have a communication by means of an elegant stone bridge; but the whole is under the jurisdiction of the same magistrates. The river is about half as broad as the Thames at London. The town is surrounded by walls, encompassed with deep ditches of running water, and fortified with eleven bastions, suitable counterescarps, outworks, &c. The Maine, Rhine, &c. render its situation admirable for trade, particularly for bringing great quantities of corn and wine from Franconia and the Palatinate. It has two annual fairs, which are frequented by merchants with various commodities, particularly books, from most parts of Europe, of which they distribute printed catalogues; so that there is a greater choice here than in any town in Christendom, during the mart, which lasts three weeks; but at other times the booksellers have scarcely any business. There are three marts every year; and the names of the foreign merchants are written over the arch before the doors of their shops, which, when the marts are ended, are shut up.

All strangers visit the town-house, to see the

chamber where the emperor is elected. And it would be reckoned a want of taste not to see the famous *golden bull*, which is kept here, an exhibition of which costs a ducat; a sufficient price surely for a glance at an old piece of parchment, which few can read.

A countryman of ours complained of the imposition; and hearing a German talk of the high price which every thing bore in England, retorted on him in these words: *Il n'y a rien en Angleterre, si cher que votre taureau d'or a Frankfort.*

A singular custom is observed here: Two women appear every day at noon on the battlements of the principal steeple, and play some very solemn airs with trumpets. This music is accompanied with vocal psalmody, performed by four or five men, who always attend the female trumpeters for that purpose.

The people here, indeed, have a great taste for psalm-singing. There are a considerable number of men and boys who follow this as their only profession. They are engaged by some families to officiate two or three times a-week in the morning, before the master and mistress of the family get out of bed. When a person in tolerable circumstances dies, a band of these sweet singers assemble in the street before the house, and chant an hour every day till the corpse is interred. They likewise follow the funerals, which are conducted with great solemnity.

The magistrates and city officers profess Luther-

anism, which is the established religion ; but most of the churches, and those the chief, are in the hands of the Catholics. German Calvinists are numerous here, and are the richest of the inhabitants. There is a common saying at Frankfort, that " the Roman Catholics have the churches, the Lutherans the magistrates, and the Calvinists the money." Funerals are conducted with an uncommon degree of solemnity in this town ; a man, dressed in a black cloak, and carrying a crucifix at the end of a long pole, leads the procession. A great number of hired mourners, in the same dress, each with a lemon in his hand, march after him. Then come the singers, followed by the corpse in a hearse ; and, lastly, the relations, in mourning coaches. The crucifix is carried in this manner at all funerals, Protestant or Roman Catholic.

The Jews have a public, and a very considerable synagogue ; their number is about six thousand : they are confined to a certain narrow street, built at one end, with a gate at the other, and are regularly shut up at a certain hour of the night. There are some who are very opulent, and vie with the Christians in every article of expense. Their industry is not to be conceived ; they are language-masters, fencing-masters, dancing-masters, writing and arithmetic-masters. Those who go into their street are much annoyed by them ; they fall upon strangers, and compel them to buy their wares. It is difficult for a man to

disentangle himself from them ; and they call to strangers from the distance of three or four hundred paces. The houses of their well-encompassed street are filled with inhabitants ; but, on the other hand, there is often only one family in the houses belonging to the rich. This is the sign of affluence ; for house-rent is dearer in this street than in any part of London, Paris, or any other great city. There is a law which forbids the Jews to live any where out of their own quarter : but the magistrate connives at breaking it ; and only renews it, from time to time, to extort money from those who chuse to live elsewhere. The Jews are obliged to fetch water, when a fire happens in any part of the city ; and the magistrates, in return, permit them to chuse judges from their own sect, for deciding disputes among themselves.

Cabinets of curiosities are found here, as in almost every considerable town in Germany ; a great number of private collections are also made. Strangers cannot pay their court better, to such collectors, than by requesting permission to see their museum ; but the misfortune of attending them is, that the proprietor waits on you himself, and gives you the history of every piece of ore, petrification, and rarity he has ; and, as this lecture is given gratis, he assumes the right of making it as long as he pleases, till it becomes tedious.

The streets of Frankfort are spacious, and well paved, the houses stately, clean, and convenient ; the outsides of them are splendid, and the style of

the architecture shews that the inhabitants know how to lay out their money with taste. There are many opulent inhabitants in this place ; the furniture of their houses, their gardens, their equipage, dress, and female ornaments, bespeak a state above the ordinary citizen, and approaching to the extreme of magnificence.

Excepting Hamburgh, this is the only imperial city which keeps up all its pristine splendour. The inns, for cleanliness, conveniency, and number of apartments, are superior to any we saw on the continent, and vie with our most magnificent inns in England.

What are called colleges, consist of associations of people of some rank, who assemble on a certain day. There are colleges of nobility, of artists of all kinds, of booksellers, of doctors of law and physic ; and, in short, of all orders. It is not difficult for a stranger to be introduced to these ; and the advantage he derives by it, of being acquainted, in an hour, with the most respectable people of his own rank, is incredible. Society is divided into *noblesse* and *bourgeois* ; the first consists of some noble families from various parts of Germany, who choose this place for their residence, and a few original citizens of Frankfort, who have attained the rank of nobility : some of these nobility take pains to point out the essential difference there is, and the distinction that ought to be made between them and the *burghers* ; who always, in their opinion, retain a vulgarity of sen-

timent and manners, unknown to those whose blood has poured through several generations, unmixed with that puddle which stagnates in the veins of plebeians. But the plebeians, in return, smile at such noblesse, and take pains; by a magnificent show, to convince the world they are the greatest men of the two. We daily see the same distinctions and rivalry at home, viz. between the English nobility, and the worthy London citizens.

Riding along the banks of the Maine, in the territories of the Elector of Mentz, we observed a building, which seemed to be the residence of some prince, or sovereign bishop at least; and were surprised we had never heard it spoken of, it having a more magnificent appearance than any modern building we had seen since our arrival in Germany. We rode up, and, on entering it, found that the apartments within, though not laid out in the best taste, seemed to correspond, in point of expence, with the external appearance. On enquiry, we were informed that this palace belonged to a tobacconist in Frankfort; where he still kept shop, and had accumulated a prodigious fortune by making and selling snuff.

There is a public assembly at Frankfort once a-week, for the nobility; at which they drink tea, converse, and play at cards, from six till ten. On the other nights, the same company meet alternately at each others houses, and pass the evening in the same manner. None of the *bourgeois* families

are invited to these parties; but they have assemblies of the same kind among themselves; and often entertain their friends and strangers in a very hospitable manner. The nobility, who reside at Frankfort, and the nobility of all degrees and every nation, who accidentally pass through it, cheerfully accept of these invitations to dine with the citizens: but none of the German ladies of quality condescend so far. Distinction of ranks is observed in Germany, with all the scrupulous precision that a matter of greater importance deserves.

We attended a public concert in Frankfort, supported by subscription. One would imagine that the subscribers should take their seats as they entered the room, and that those who came earliest should have their choice, as in England—not so. The first two rows are kept for the ladies of quality; officers, and daughters of the citizens, must be contented to sit behind.

The theatre being opened by a troop of German comedians, we were present: and, previous to the play, there was a kind of allegorical compliment to Her Royal Highness. This was performed by Justice, Wisdom, and Plenty, each of whom appeared with the usual attributes. The piece was a *German translation of the English play of George Bardwell*, with considerable alterations. Bardwell is represented as an imprudent young man, but does not murder his uncle, as in the English play, or commit any gross crime. The

translator, therefore, instead of *hanging*, *marries* him, at the end of the piece.

Braunfield, which was formerly the emperor's palace, is now the mansion-house of the Teutonic knights, where debtors have a sanctuary for fourteen days, after which they may be taken up.

There is a port or harbour, and the citadel or fortress of Saxenhausen. There are also several noble fountains in the city, and particularly three, in the great market-place; and divers mineral springs and baths belonging to the city.

The city is governed by a prætor, twelve burgomasters, fourteen eschevins or aldermen, (one of which is always a burgomaster,) and forty-two common council. The senate, which chooses two burgomasters annually out of their own number, is divided into three benches; the first is that of the eschevins; the second is the literati, or learned, out of which the first bench is supplied in case of a vacancy; and the third is that of tradesmen who never rise higher. The grand bailiff, who is always president of the council, is chosen from the eschevins; his office is for life, as well as that of the eschevins. Besides these, there are syndics, whose power is much limited. The magistrates are chosen from among the nobility, but named by all the corporations of tradesmen. The government here is milder than in most of the imperial towns; and their liberties, which they boast of holding originally from Charlemange, seem better established.

Saxenhausen formerly belonged to the Elector of Mentz, but was bartered for the town of Höchst, which depended on Frankfort ; and since this change, one of the city council must reside at Saxenhausen.

Having viewed all the remarkable places in Frankfort worthy of notice, we left it on the fourth day for Darmstadt, the residence of the Prince of Hesse Darmstadt. Here the Princess's reception was extremely gratifying: the carriages having driven to the Prince's palace, the Prince ordered every attention and respect to be paid to Her Royal Highness, and most urgently invited her to rest at Darmstadt for a week ; but for reasons before mentioned, the Princess declined his courteous offer.

On our arrival, the whole of the palace wore the appearance of a festival ; for every thing was in the most splendid style, and the utmost gaiety pervaded the countenance of every one, from the court-lady to the humble domestic. Having partaken of a most elegant dejeuner, at which the most distinguished members of the court were present, the carriages were ordered ; and whilst Her Royal Highness, attended by the Prince of Hesse, proceeded to view the town and the pleasure grounds, every thing was got in readiness for a grand hunting party in honour of the Princess of Wales.

Accordingly, about twelve o'clock, the Prince having given orders for all his attendants to

mount, handed the Princess and her ladies into their carriage. He, himself, mounted on a fine hunter, rode by her side till we reached the field; when, an immense number of peasants being collected, the hunt began.

BUIRGER has so happily, and so poetically, described the pleasures and dangers of the chace, in his beautiful poem of the Wild Hunter, that any further description is rendered absolutely unnecessary. The following translated extracts from this celebrated composition, are calculated to rouse the most inanimate.

“———His bugle horn the Margrave sounds,

Halloo-loo-loo! to horse, to horse!

The brisk steed neighs, and forward bounds;

The pack uncoupled join his course;

With bark and yelp, they brush and rush

Thro' corn and thorn, thro' wood and bush.

Yolohee! dash athwart the train,

With trampling haste the Margrave rides;

When lo! the horsemen speed amain,

To join the chase from different sides.--

“Be welcome, sirs, we're starting now,

You hit the nick of time and place;

Not earth nor heaven can bestow

A princelier pleasure than the chace.”--

Giving his steed a hearty slap,

He wav'd aloof his hunter's cap.

With sixteen antlers on his head,

A milk-white stag before them strode:—

Soho! hurrah! at once they sped

O'er hill and wood, o'er field and flood.

Aleft, aright, beside the knight

Rode all the huntsmen, black and white.

Louder their bugle horns they wind,
The horses swifter spurn the ground ;
And now before, and now behind,
Crush'd, gasping, howls some trampled hound.

The quarry seeks the ripening corn
And hopes to find a shelter there.
See, the poor husbandman forlorn
With clasped hands is drawing near :
" Have pity, noble Sir, forbear !
My little, only, harvest spare."

Now swiftly over ditch and bank
The Margrave gallops at a bound ;
And with him pours in rear and flank,
The train of man, and horse, and hound.
Horse, hound, and man, the corn-field scour,
Its dust and chaff the winds devour.

Affrighted at the growing din,
The timid stag resumes his flight,
Runs up and down, and out and in,
Until a meadow strikes his sight ;
There couch'd among the fleecy breed,
He slily hopes to hide his head.

But up and down, and out and in,
The hounds his tainted tract pursue ;
Again he hears the growing din,
Again the hunters cross his view.

Now sounds the bugle,—loo-loo-loo !
The dogs come yelping at the sound ;
With fury fierce, the eager crew
Pounce on the herd that stand around.

Rous'd by the murderous whoop so near,
The stag once more his covert breaks ;
Panting, in foam, with gushing tear,
The darkness of the wood he seeks,
And, where a lonely hermit dwells,
Takes refuge in the hallow'd cells.

With crack of whip, and blore of horn,
Yolohee! on! hurrah! soho!
Rash, rush the throng thro' bush and thorn,
And thither still pursue the foe.

At once has vanished all the rout,
Margrave and huntsmen,—stag and horn;
Nor whip, nor horn, nor bark, nor shout,
Amid the dark abyss resound.—
Dim chilly mists their sight appal;
A deadly stillness swallows all!——”

When the hunt, in which three fine deer were killed, was ended, the Prince of Hesse rode up to the Princess of Wales's carriage to pay his respects, and the Princess was pleased to compliment him on his agility and success. The whole party now rode towards the palace, where a most elegant and expensive entertainment awaited them. In the evening there was a splendid ball, to which many of the neighbouring nobility were invited. The Princess of Wales, after thanking the Prince of Hesse for his marked hospitality, retired early, but several of the suite remained dancing till a late hour.

The following observations on the situation of Darmstadt were hastily put together during our short stay.

DARMSTADT is seated on a river of the same name, in a fruitful and pleasant country. Its fertility may be inferred from the largeness of the asparagus. The gardeners lay small sticks over the beds when they begin to shoot, to shelter them from the weather and cold winds. Darmstadt contains a new palace, one church, the burial

place of the family, a regency, a court of appeals, a consistory, a criminal court, a grammar-school, and an orphan-house. There is no regular fortification round the town, but a very high stone wall, not so much to defend it from an enemy, as to prevent desertion. Sentinels are placed at small distances all round the wall, and are obliged to be extremely alert. One soldier gives the words, *All is well*, in German, to his neighbour on the right, who immediately calls the same to the sentinel beyond him; and so it goes round till the first soldier receives it from the left, which he transmits to the right, as formerly: thus the call circulates, without intermission, through the whole night. Every other part of garrison duty is performed with equal exactness, and neglects are as severely punished, as if an enemy was at the gates. The men are seldom in bed more than two nights out of three. This, with the attention requisite to keep their clothes and accoutrements clean, is very hard duty, especially when the frost is uncommonly keen, as it often is, and the ground covered with snow. The prince has a small body of cavalry, dressed in buff coats, and magnificently accoutred; these are his horse guards; and they are all not less in height than six feet three inches; several of them considerably above it. In this town the Germans first gave over tilts; because, in 1403, the Franconians and Hessians having challenged one another to this exercise, several of the Franconian nobility,

and nine of the Hessians, were killed on the spot.

Darmstadt is a small, but pleasant place, with charming society. It lies in the midst of several large cities, not far distant from each other. The air is good, and the inhabitants have it in their power to unite the city and country life. Add to this the popularity of the court, the English garden open to every one, the magnificent parade, the number of agreeable women, and the hunting parties, which are made at a moderate expence,—all these render it a most desirable habitation. The place abounds with fruit, and yields annually great quantities of rich wines. There is no part of Germany more proper for hunting; or of Europe, where there are more deer. These are very troublesome to the peasants, who are abroad day and night to watch their fields, and guard them from their encroachments.

On the following morning, Her Royal Highness and suite were all up betimes. The Prince also, and his household, had risen early, to give every facility for the Princess's safe conduct to Mentz, where it was proposed to breakfast. The Prince of Hesse, and four of his principal officers, accompanied us to this town, and remained in it until the Princess was ready, next morning, to proceed towards the south. The following is an impartial description of the city of Mentz.

MENTZ, which stands on the Rhine, near where the Maine falls into it, is the capital of the arch-

bishopric and electorate. It is a large and populous city ; but most of the streets are narrow, and the common buildings very plain and irregular. The elector has several palaces in and about the city, most of which are ornamented with extensive gardens. It was made an archbishoprick in 729, by Pepin and Pope Gregory III. The cathedral is a lofty vaulted building ; and in it are some fine monuments, erected to the memory of deceased Electors. The Elector's chief palace is built of reddish marble, embellished with ornaments, and is regular and magnificent, though but two stories high, and built after the old German manner. Besides the cathedral, there are many collegiate and other churches, with several monasteries, nunneries, and hospitals. Here are likewise an university, founded in the year 1482, by the elector Diether ; a bridge of boats over the Rhine ; manufactories of stockings and stuffs ; and two yearly fairs. But the most considerable building in this city is the charter-house, which, for elegance and extent, is one of the finest in Europe. It has apartments large and commodious enough to lodge a sovereign and his retinue, and is beautifully situated on an eminence fronting the Rhine. At the foot of this house stands the Favorita, a small, but elegant, electoral palace, with most delightful gardens.

Mentz has a flourishing trade, especially in Rhenish wines, of which the vineyards in this neighbourhood yield the best ; particularly those of

Hockham, from whence the finest sort of Rherish wine has obtained the name of Old Hock. The city of Mentz claims the invention of the art of printing, which, if not invented, was at least much improved, by John Faust, or, as others say, by John Guttenburg, about the year 1450.

In the territory of Mentz, behind Cronberg, is a mountain called ALTKONIGER, or the Old King, which raises its head above the ridge of hills that protects the fine plain along the side of the Maine, between Frankfort and Mentz, from the rude north winds. We ascended this mountain for the sake of viewing the rising sun: to the south, it overlooks a plain thirty-three miles broad, terminated by the mountains Spessart and Odenwalde: the forest of Spessart, adjoining, has a road through it sixteen miles long, but very safe to travel; being guarded by hussars. In this plain are seen all the villages, hamlets, and towns, between Frankfort and the Maine; the eastern view is closed by the Spessart, fifty-one miles distant. All the country along the Maine and Neckar lies like a map under the feet. In order to enjoy the sight of the rising sun from this mountain, we wrapt ourselves in furs, though in August, and made a fire of wood in the night, but the break of day fully overpaid the toils of the night. Never did we feel our existence, or that of the Being that animates all nature, more fully, than at the instant in which the first ray of the sun gilded the tops of the Spessart and Odenwalde; both of which, at a

distance, appeared to be islands of fire. As far as this hill, all was thick darkness; but this eastern view appeared like an illuminated island swimming in the black ocean of night. The morning spreading wider and wider, shewed us the most beautiful landscape, in miniature, that we had ever seen; we beheld villages afar off in the shade, the darkness of which, one ray of the morning sun broke through and dispelled. By degrees we saw the separation of the hills, with their several tracks and windings; every thing appeared as a fine and well illuminated landscape through a perspective glass. A sensation never before experienced took possession of us:—in beholding the scene, we felt as if expanded, as if a weight were taken off our hearts, and as if we breathed a purer air. But the first break of the sun surpassed all the beauties of the dawn; the grandeur, variety, and magnificence of this appearance, is above description. The plain, seventy-five miles long, and forty-two broad, which lies between the Spessart, the Donnersberg, the eastern part of the Odenwalde, and our hills, were overspread with large streaks of light, contrasted in the strongest manner, with the thickness of the shade. The top of the Donnersberg was gilded over, whilst deep darkness brooded at his feet, and over all the Rhine beneath. We were ourselves in light, but the plains and villages below were in a kind of half darkness, broken only by the reflection of the light from the hills on which we stood; the elevated

parts of the immense plains which lay before us, broke through that darkness, with a cheerfulness which brought them much nearer to our view, and produced the most agreeable deception. Now a spire emerged from the gloom, next the summit of a hill covered with wood, and then a whole village, with its trees, seemed to swim upon the earth; here lay a corn field in sight, and, as it were, raised up from the country around it. The river Maine, which hitherto appeared like a dark stripe of the prospect, began also to be illumined with silver; and the Rhine, in a similar manner, was soon brought nearer to our eyes; this was followed with such a blaze, such a flood of light—but I feel, I am attempting to describe a scene that is indescribable, and to which I am inadequate. In short, I have often seen the sun rise, but never so magnificently as on the Altkoniger. A man may travel through many countries, and not meet with so favourable a spot as this for such an object.

Having breakfasted early, the Princess of Wales made many acknowledgments to his Highness for his attention, and gave orders for departure. The Prince of Hesse and suite proceeded homewards, whilst we pursued our course towards the south, and soon entered the bishoprick of Worms. This district, which is not large, is, generally speaking, barren, mountainous, and woody; though there are some patches, here and there, which produce a tolerable quantity of corn

and grapes. The Bishop's revenue is small, not exceeding 2,500*l*.

About nine o'clock, however, on crossing the Rhine, we beheld one of the finest countries in the world. The spacious and beautiful plain, in which Worms is situated, abounds with corn, vines, and various kinds of fruit trees. We learned that a particular sort of wine, called *Our Lady's Milk*, is peculiar to this spot.

Our forenoon's repast at Worms was composed of the greatest delicacies, which are here produced in profusion; after which, the magistrates waited on Her Royal Highness, to make a tender of their services, in exhibiting their ancient city. The Princess, having acknowledged her grateful sense of their civility, gave orders for her suite to accompany her. We spent about two hours in viewing the curiosities and public places of Worms; the following short description of which was drawn up, as the Princess's party proceeded on their journey.

WORMS is situated on the west side of the Rhine, at the distance of twenty-six miles south of Frankfort on the Maine. While the imperial chamber was kept here, it was one of the most considerable cities in the whole empire. It is celebrated for the great diet in the year 1521, to which Luther came according to summons, though his friends would fain have dissuaded him, by reminding him of John Huss, (who was burnt by a decree of the Council of Constance, notwithstanding the passport granted him by the Emperor Sigismund;) but

Luther, far from being terrified, came hither, and made such a defence of his doctrine, that he was proscribed, and obliged to abscond; during which time he wrote the book, called his *Works from the Desert*. The Lutherans have only one church for their use, and the Catholics have all the rest of the churches. The Calvinists have one at Newhausel, half a league out of the city, where the Lutherans sometimes scruple not to have their children baptized, contrary to the custom of Frankfort. The town has no other fortification than a double wall; and is as large as Frankfort, but thinly peopled, and poor. It was often taken and retaken, during the civil wars in Germany; but suffered most by the French, who, in 1689, laid in ashes, in a few hours, what had been the work of ages.

The Roman Catholics, who are very numerous here, have the cathedral; but the magistrates, and most of the inhabitants, are Lutherans. There is as much vacant ground in the town, as, being planted with vines, yields an immense quantity of wine, which is so much esteemed, that the magistrates make presents of it, with fish, to travellers of quality. The present of the fish is to denote their right of fishery on the Rhine.

The churches of St. Paul, and St. John, are very ancient. The latter is built of vast square stones, in an irregular manner, with narrow windows, and galleries round the outside, just under the roof; the walls are twelve feet thick; so that it seems to

have been designed for a *fort* rather than a *church*. The cathedral is a long, high, and strong structure; with a tower at each of the four corners. The ornaments are gothic; and over one of the gates is an hieroglyphic, being a figure of the size of an ass, with four heads, viz. those of a man, an ox, an eagle, and a lion. The two first are looking upwards, and the other two downwards. It is supposed to be a representation of the four beasts in Ezekiel's vision; or, as some think, of the hieroglyphics of the four Evangelists.

There are two public halls here, in one of which the magistrates assemble twice a-week for matters of state, and in the other for the administration of justice.

There is also a mint, which is a noble structure, with a spacious portico, where a vast number of bones and horns hang between the arches; the former of these, they say, are those of giants, who lived among the ancient Vangiones; and the latter, the horns of the oxen that drew the stones which built the cathedral. The outside of the house is adorned with many pictures, particularly some of those giants in armour.

Since this city was laid in ashes, by the French, in 1693, it has little more than the shadow of its former beauty. The richest traders, considering how much both they and their ancestors had suffered by lying so open to France, retired to Holland and Frankfort: so that its chief supports are the Bishop and Chapter. But the Bishop, being always a

pluralist, and often an ecclesiastical Elector, very seldom resides here.

Having bade the worthy magistrates adieu, we left their city, and proceeded along the left bank of the Rhine, which we re-crossed at Manheim. Our ride was extremely pleasant, and the whole party seemed to enjoy the beautiful and extended view of the well-cultivated plain which lay before us. The sensation felt on emerging from a mountainous region, and entering into a fruitful champagne country, is indescribable.

We reached MANHEIM about four o'clock. It is a strong fortress on the right bank of the Rhine, and situated on a low plain, similar to that on the left. Manheim is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in Germany; the streets being quite straight, and intersecting each other at right angles.

Stopping no longer at Manheim, than whilst changing horses, we proceeded, with considerable rapidity, towards Heidelberg, about twelve miles south-east. The whole of the Palatinate, of which the last-mentioned city is the capital, is highly cultivated, and abundantly fruitful. Besides this, the scenery, from a mixture of hill and dale, is exceedingly picturesque; the eminences being clothed with vines, almond, walnut, and chesnut-trees. This district also yields a variety of other fruits, and plenty of every sort of grain.

We arrived at Heidelberg about seven o'clock, where dinner had been previously ordered, and which was served up in very splendid style. The

fruits, which were of the choicest sort, were in the greatest profusion; and the wines, which were of the most delicious flavour, no less deserved our praise: in short, our hotel was marked for civility, neatness, and plenty. On the following day we proceeded to view the city and its neighbourhood.

HEIDELBERG is situated near the river Neckar, in a good air, encompassed on all sides, except to the west, with hills covered with vines. It takes its name from *Heidel*, which signifies a *myrtle*, and *Berg*, a *mountain*; there being plenty of those trees on the mountains in the neighbourhood. It is an ancient city, and has been frequently besieged and taken, plundered and destroyed. Though it is at present small, it is neat and well built. The electoral palace is an antique building, but, standing on a hill, commands a fine prospect. As to the famous library here, many valuable books and manuscripts were taken from it in 1662, (when General Tilly made himself master of the town) and sent to Rome, Vienna, and Munich. The professors of the university here are partly Calvinists, and partly Roman Catholics. The Calvinists are possessed of St. Peter's Church, the Lutherans of the church of Providence; but the next church is divided into two apartments, in one of which the Protestants, and in the other the Roman Catholics, perform public worship,—a singular proof of their moderation. Besides these there is a fine college, and six cloisters, all with churches, and an university, with Calvinist and Roman Catholic professors. The bridge on the Neckar is covered.

From Heidelberg runs an avenue to Schwetzingen, a hunting palace of the Elector, lying at one hour's distance from the city.

Opposite to Heidelberg is a high mountain, on which the Romans had a Castle. It is now called the Holy Mountain, from a cloister, erected in 1023, to which frequent pilgrimages are made. The famous *Tun of Heidelberg*, which stood in a cellar under one of the towers of the electoral palace, and contained 600 hogsheads of wine, was destroyed by the French in 1688, but the Elector, Charles-Lewis, caused a new one to be made of much larger dimensions.

We now set forward, crossed the Rhine again to the city of SPIRE, which we reached about three in the afternoon. This city is situated on the same delightful plain as Worms. Spire was erected before the time of our Saviour, and the see was founded in the fourth century. The magistrates and many of the inhabitants are Lutherans; but the Roman Catholics have many churches and convents in Spire. The French, who burnt this city in the year 1689, murdered indiscriminately men, women, and children; destroyed several marble monuments of Emperors and Empresses; even ransacked the graves, and scattered about the bones of the dead. Previous to this devastation, Spire was the seat of the imperial chamber. The city was rebuilt with additional beauty, but the chamber was removed. At the diet held here in 1529, the word *Protestant* took its rise, from a number of the followers of Luther

protesting against several of the Romish doctrines. It is singular that the Bishop is not permitted to reside in Spire; and even when he is chosen, he must redress all complaints, before he is suffered to enter the city.

Leaving Spire about five, we re-crossed the Rhine a second time, and proceeded to Philippsburg, a town eight miles southwards; where we were to rest for the night. We entered it about half past six.

PHILIPSBURG, before 1443, was but a small town; but, having been encompassed by a wall, it was erected into a city. Being conveniently situated for the command of the adjacent country, Philippsburg was fortified by Philip, Bishop of Spire, in 1629, and called by his name.

The Elector Palatine, Frederick the Fifth, suspicious of the Bishop's designs in fortifying this place during peace, ordered him to desist: but he refused, alleging that he had the Emperor's proclamation for his warrant. Accordingly the Elector raised troops and demolished the fortifications. For this, the Emperor summoned him and his confederates before the chambers of Spire, designing to proceed against them with the utmost severity. These transactions, with other causes, produced the civil wars which distracted all Germany. Philippsburg has stood several stout sieges; but the fortifications still remain, having been repaired from time to time. Several good views are seen from the walls.

CHAPTER IV.

The Princess and Suite enter the Circle of Suabia. Arrival at Stuttgard.—Reception by the Royal Family.—Description of the Palace, Museum, and Arsenal.—Visit the Palace of Ludwigsburg. Return to Stuttgard.—Description of that City. Baden famous for Baths.—Depart for Tubingen in Company with the King of Wurtemberg. Description of Tubingen.—Arrival at Ulm.—Description of the City and of the grand Cathedral. Departure for Schaffhausen.—Description of the City, and the celebrated Cataract, termed the Fall of the Rhine, at Lauffen.

THE Princess having left Philipsburg, which is the most southern town in the circle of the Upper Rhine, entered Suabia. In her progress through the kingdom of Wurtemberg, towards Stuttgard, the capital, she was much gratified by viewing the fertility of the country, and the very many proofs of industry in the inhabitants. She was received with much affection on her entrance into STUTTGARD, by the present King, who conducted her to the palace, where she was greeted by her sister-in-law, the present Queen Dowager, and formerly the Princess Royal of England. In Stuttgard the Princess remained two days, which were passed in viewing every thing curious and remarkable in and near that city.

The King's palace is a noble fabric, constructed

of free-stone. It is well fortified, being flanked at each angle by a tower. It is also adorned with elegant groves and gardens, an orangery almost unequalled, grottos, curious labyrinths, and water-works. All this beauty, however, is disagreeably contrasted with the unsightly appearance of ditches, which wash the palace walls. These, which are relics of feudalism, give the palace an appearance of a prison. In the interior of this palace there is a vast deal of ornament. The rooms are magnificent, particularly those appropriated to the gentlemen of the court. In these rooms tables have been spread for three hundred foreigners; and it was here, that the French Emperor Napoleon was so sumptuously entertained by the Princess Royal of England, at a time when he was carrying on so hot a contest with her father, George the Third, King of Great Britain.

The royal party having crossed the moat, which surrounds the palace, by a handsome antique bridge, viewed the king's aviary, which contains a most extensive collection of birds of all nations. The moat in question is not a mere ditch; it contains not only plenty of every sort of fresh-water fish, but there are also an innumerable quantity of swans and other water-fowl continually skimming along its surface. On the banks are to be seen various herds of fine deer, grazing, and adding to the beauty of the landscape. Having passed the theatre, which they were to visit in the evening, the

royal party proceeded to view the chancery office. This structure, which contains, likewise, a fine museum and extensive arsenal, is situated opposite to the palace, and displays a most magnificent appearance. In the museum is an excellent collection of antique busts, and basso-relievos. The piece which most deserves attention is the statue of Jupiter Dolichenus, brought from Marseilles. It is a representation of that deity in armour, standing on the crupper of an ox, just in the same attitude as he is copied from the original in the antiquities of Montfaucon. Here are abundance of urns, lamps, little lares or household gods, and ancient coins both of silver and gold, with shells, petrifications, fossils, exotic plants, monstrous productions, the exuviae of animals, &c. besides the dresses and weapons used in the most remote countries. The hall is a most spacious room, finely adorned in fresco, with representations of various huntings; in each of which pieces the duke of Wurtemberg may be distinguished, with the princes and princesses of his family, in whose time they were performed. There is an arsenal, in which appears a series of the dukes of Wurtemberg on barbed horses, richly armed, and accoutred after the fashion of the age they lived in, as large as the life, and the name and eulogium of every one set forth on the opposite wall; which is graced also with standards and other trophies gained by the dukes in their several actions, particularly the skin of a favourite horse killed under

the duke who commanded under prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough at the battle of Hochstet. On the ceiling of this arsenal are some noble representations of battles, wherein some of the ancient dukes of Wurtemberg lost their lives in the service of their country, under the emperors of the Saxon and Suabian race.

In the evening the Princess was highly entertained by the exhibition of Schiller's Tragedy of Don Carlos, performed by the king's company of players. After this, was performed a grand concert, in the first style: the music was selected from Mozart, Rassinini, and other eminent composers. On the return of the royal party to the palace they were presented with a most elegant supper, consisting of all the delicacies which this country so abundantly affords; and about 12 o'clock the company removed to the beforementioned hall, which was now magnificently fitted up for dancing. The King and Queen vied with each other in their attentions to the Princess, who was highly gratified by every honour done her by her royal relatives. At nearly two in the morning Her Royal Highness was conducted by the King and Queen to her apartments, where, having taken an affectionate leave for the night, she retired to rest.

Next day the royal party visited the king's palace at LUDWIGSBURG, about six miles from Stuttgard. Here similar sumptuous preparations were made in honour of the arrival of Her Royal

Highness. This palace was formerly but a farmhouse for breeding cattle, but is now acknowledged to be one of the finest edifices in all Germany. The looking-glass and lacquered closet are very curious; and so is the great staircase for the ambassadors, with its magnificent cieling, and the gallery of pictures; among these are some admirable night pieces, and a great many pictures of horses and dogs, and likewise the picture of a black wolf, which was kept for a long time at court. The chapel belonging to the palace is very elegant, but rather too small. Here is another curious aviary of foreign fowl.

Having dined at Ludwigsburg, the royal party returned to Stuttgard, and passed some time in viewing the city. STUTTGARD stands in a fruitful plain, surrounded by very high hills: the town is divided into two parts by the Neckar, over which is a handsome bridge. Although this town is rather dirty, still it is very gay, being in the neighbourhood of the Court, and being much frequented on account of its hot baths. It has its name from having been anciently occupied by a large stud for breeding horses. There is another town, famous for its baths, about twenty miles west from Stuttgard, named BADEN. The number of baths here are three hundred; they are scalding hot, and as they issue from rocks of salt, alum, and brimstone, they taste strongly of those minerals. One of them boils and bubbles, as if it stood over a burning furnace. Among other

distempers, these baths are famous for curing the cramp and gout. These virtues bring a great resort of company to Baden.

Having resolved to proceed on her route, Her Royal Highness accepted the offer which the present King made her, of accompanying her to TUBINGEN; accordingly the carriages were ordered, and the Princess, having bade her royal sister adieu, set off on her journey. In Tubingen, the Princess, who was always attached to classical recollections, viewed the ancient seat of the Roman emperor Caracalla, who in this city built some noble edifices for the exhibition of public games to entertain the ancient Germans. In this city is held the high court of justice for the kingdom. There is also an university extremely well attended. Besides the university, which is in great repute, there is a *collegium illustre* for the education of princes and young noblemen. In the town-house is a very curious clock, which deserves the attention of travellers. In the vicinity is a medicinal bath.

The Princess, having here bid her royal relative adieu, proceeded eastward to the city of Ulm, which she reached about six in the evening. ULM, which stands on the west side of the Danube, is an imperial city, though in Charlemagne's time it was but a little village. It is now a populous city, with regular fortifications, and wide deep ditches, filled by the waters of the Danube and the Blaw; but it is so situated that it would not be able to

sustain a long siege. It has a bridge over the Danube, the entrance of which is defended by fortifications; and there is a little suburb of pleasure-houses, and large gardens. There are in the city two squares, in the largest of which is the town-house, a stately building where the senate meets. At one end of the town there is an arsenal. The river Blaw turns mills for several occupations; there being a great number of hands employed in the manufactories of stuffs, linen, cotton, and fustians; in dressing leather; and in the iron and other manufactories, as well as clock-work; by which this is become one of the richest cities in Germany. Large quantities of wine are brought here from the Rhine, the Neckar, and from Constance, to be transported down the Danube.

That which engages the attention of travellers in this city, is the cathedral, not to be equalled by any in Germany, that of Strasburg excepted. The steeple is four hundred and one steps high: nothing can be finer than the prospects from the top of it, the whole country round it being entirely level. In case of fire, especially from lightning, sixty three large copper kettles, always filled with water, are hung up in different parts of the tower, and on the roof of the church, with a machine for drawing up provisions for the watchmen in the tower.

In Ulm Her Royal Highness rested for the night, and next morning proceeded to Schaffhau-

sen, on the borders of Switzerland. The face of the country between Ulm and this place, is very fertile and pleasant.

SCHAFFHAUSEN, which is the capital of the Canton of the same name, is a tolerably well built town; its population is supposed to be about thirty thousand. About a league from this city is situated the celebrated fall of the Rhine, generally termed the Cataract of Schaffhausen, though, properly speaking, its name is Lauffen. The country round about is most picturesque and agreeable. The Princess and party having dined at Schaffhausen, proceeded to view this celebrated cataract.

Having advanced to the edge of the precipice, they looked down, and saw the river tumbling over the sides of the rock with amazing impetuosity. They then descended, and stood close to the fall. A scaffolding is erected in the very spray of this tremendous cataract, and upon the most sublime point of view. The scene exceeds description. About one hundred feet from the scaffolding two crags rise in the middle of the fall, the nearest of which is perforated by the constant action of the water, and allows a vent for a part of the tumultuous waves.

Crossing the river at a place where it was extremely agitated, they enjoyed another perspective of this grand scene. The most striking objects are the castle of Lauffen, erected on the very edge of the precipice, a church and some cottages, and

a cluster of the latter near the fall. In the back ground are rocks skirted with vines, or tufted with pendent woods, a beautiful little hamlet, the great mass of water, and the two crags already mentioned, having their tops sprinkled with shrubs, and dividing the cataract into three principal parts. Below the fall, the river widens considerably: at the spot of precipitation it appears to be three hundred feet broad. As to its perpendicular height, travellers vary much; but we think that between fifty and sixty feet may be near the truth. It is certain this astonishing cataract has undergone several important changes; and it is probable that, in the lapse of years, the two crags, which now rise in the middle of the stream, will be undermined and carried away.

At Schaffhausen there was once a very extraordinary bridge over the Rhine, justly admired for the singularity of its architecture. The river is extremely rapid, and had already destroyed several stone bridges of the strongest construction, when a carpenter of Appenzel offered to throw a wooden bridge of a single arch across the river, which is nearly four hundred feet wide. The magistrates, however, required that it should consist of two arches, and that he should, for that purpose, employ the middle pier of the old bridge. Accordingly the architect was obliged to obey; but he contrived to leave it a matter of doubt, whether the bridge was supported by the middle pier, and whether it would not have been

equally as safe, if formed solely of one arch. The sides and top were covered, and the road, which was almost level, was not carried, as usual, over the top of the arch, but, if the expression may be allowed, let into the middle of it, and therefore suspended. A man of the slightest weight felt it tremble under him; though waggons heavily laden might pass over without danger. Considering the boldness of the plan and construction, it must appear extraordinary, that the architect was only a carpenter, without the least tincture of literature, totally ignorant of mathematics, and not versed in the theory of mechanics. His name was Ulric Grubenman. The bridge was finished in less than three years, and cost about eight thousand pounds sterling. It was burnt by the French when they evacuated Schaffhausen, after being defeated by the Austrians, April 13, 1799.

CHAPTER V.

Departure from Schaffhausen, and arrival at Zurich.—General Description of Switzerland, Mountains, and Glaciers.—Ibex, Chamois, and Marmont.—Description of Zurich.—Arsenal.—William Tell's Bow and Arrow.—Institutions for Education.—Curious Manuscripts in the Public Library.—Singular Law respecting abandoned Females.—Departure for Zug.—Description.—Protected by Saint Oswald, King of Northumberland.—Enter the Canton of Uri.—Description of the Lake of Lucerne.—Mount Pilatus.—Curious Statue in a Cavern at its Summit.—Arrival at Altorf.—Stone Pillars, to mark the Spot where William Tell shot the Apple from his Son's Head.—Arrival in the Valley of Urseren.—Description of Mount Saint Gothard.

THE Princess and party having departed from Schaffhausen, entered Zurich. Before entering on a description of the various towns and other places passed through, in our route through Switzerland, it will be necessary to take a cursory view of the general features of the whole of this interesting country. Switzerland being a mountainous region, lying upon the Alps, (which form an amphitheatre for more than one hundred miles,) the frosts are very severe in winter; and many of the hills and mountains are covered with snow, from one end of the year to the other. Where, only one generation back, the most fertile alpine pastures were seen, there is now eternal

ice; and the line of snow seems, in the course of time, to descend lower and lower from the summit of the mountains, towards the plains and valleys.

In summer the inequality of the soil renders the same province very unequal in its seasons. On one side of those mountains the inhabitants are often reaping, while they are sowing on another. The valleys are warm and fruitful, and well cultivated; and nothing can be more delightful than the summer months in this country. It is subject to rains and tempests, for which reason public granaries are every where erected, to supply the failure of their crops. The water of Switzerland is generally excellent, and often descends from the mountains in large or small cataracts, which have a delightful effect.

There is, probably, no country in the world where the advantageous effects of unwearied and persevering industry are more remarkably conspicuous than in Switzerland. In passing over the mountainous parts, the traveller is struck with admiration, to observe rocks, that were formerly barren, now planted with vines, or abounding with rich pasture; and to mark the traces of the plough along the sides of precipices so steep, that a horse could not even mount them without great difficulty. In short, the inhabitants seem to have surmounted every obstruction which soil, situation, and climate, have thrown in their way, and to have spread fertility over various spots of the country;

which nature seemed to have consigned to everlasting barrenness. The feet of the mountains, and sometimes also the very summits, are covered with vineyards, corn fields, meadows, and pasture-ground. Other parts of this country are more dreary, consisting almost entirely of barren and inaccessible rocks, some of which are continually covered with snow or ice. The valleys between these icy and snowy mountains appear like so many smooth frozen lakes, and from them vast fragments of ice frequently fall down into the more fruitless spots beneath. In some parts there is a regular gradation from extreme wildness to high cultivation; in others the transitions are very abrupt, and very striking. Sometimes a continued chain of cultivated mountains, richly clothed with wood, and studded over with hamlets, cottages above the clouds, pastures which appear suspended in the air, exhibit the most delightful landscape that can be conceived; and in other places appear rugged rocks, cataracts, and mountains of a prodigious height, covered with ice and snow.

No subject in natural history is more curious than the origin of the Glaciers, which are immense fields of ice; and usually rest on an inclined plane; being pushed forwards by the pressure of their own weight, and but weakly supported by the rugged rocks beneath. They are intersected by large transverse crevices, and present the appearance of walls, pyramids, and other fantastic shapes, observed at all heights, and in all situa-

tion of the country. M

tions, wherever the declivity is beyond thirty or forty degrees.

In this mountainous country, where the works of nature are exhibited on a grand scale, Mont Blanc and Mont Rosa are particularly distinguished for their amazing elevation. Their summits and sides are perpetually clothed with a mantle of snow, in which a single speck of rock is not to be seen. This uninterrupted whiteness gives these mountains a most singular and glaring appearance. Mont Blanc is estimated to be 15,600 feet high, and Mont Rosa 15,800, so that they stand in proud preeminence far above all the other mountains of Europe.

Among the animals peculiar to the Alps, may be mentioned the ibex, or goat of the rocks. This animal resembles the common goat, but the horns are uncommonly long and thick, and of such strength as to save him, in headlong descents from precipices. The hair is long and ash-coloured, with a black streak along the back. The female is one third less than the male, and her horns are small, while those of the male are about two feet six inches in length. The ibex will mount a perpendicular rock of fifteen feet at three springs, bounding like an elastic body struck against a hard substance. In the day he seeks the highest summits, but in the night the nearest woods, browsing in summer on aromatic and dwarf plants, and in the winter on lichens. His common cry is a sharp short whistle. The chase is rashly dangerous, and exposed to many

accidents. Another singular animal is the chamois, a species of the antelope, and is commonly seen in herds of twenty or thirty, with a sentinel, who alarms them by a shrill cry. The colour is a yellowish brown, but they sometimes occur speckled. Their food is the lichen, with shoots of pine or fir. The blood of these animals is of so hot a nature, that some of the mountaineers, who are much subject to pleurisies, take a few drops of it, mixed with water, as a remedy for that disorder. The marmot is common on the Swiss mountains. In summer they feed upon alpine plants, and live in societies, digging dwellings in the ground for summer, and others for winter. About the beginning of October, having provided hay, they retreat to the latter, where they remain torpid till the spring. The skin of this little animal is used in the manufacture of furs. The marmot may be tamed, and shews considerable docility; its size is between that of the hare and the rabbit.

As Zurich and the other northern cantons of Switzerland are not so mountainous as those which lie towards Italy, our journey was extremely pleasant, whilst our route was by no means impeded. On our arrival at the capital town, several of the principal inhabitants came out in their carriages to meet the Princess.

On the following morning we were attended by the same distinguished personages in our progress to view this ancient town, which is said to present the same appearance as it did in the thirteenth

century: the suburbs, however, are strengthened by modern fortification.

The inhabitants carry on various manufactures, the principal of which are those of linens, cottons, muslins, and silk handkerchiefs. The streets are generally narrow; and the houses and public buildings accord rather with the simple and plain manners of the people, than with our ideas of a capital. The environs are extremely populous, and are the principal residence of manufacturers and their labourers. This is greatly conducive to the health and pleasure of those whose employments are sedentary; more particularly as the close neighbourhood of the lake of Zurich affords them every opportunity for angling, sailing, and other agreeable employments. The public walk is pleasantly situated on a lawn, at the junction of the Limmat and the Sil, and is shaded by a double row of lime-trees.

Having surveyed the city and suburbs, we proceeded to view the arsenal, which is well supplied with arms and ammunition. Here are to be seen the two hundred swords and massy armour of the old Swiss warriors; and the bow and arrow with which William Tell is said to have cleft the apple placed on the head of his son.

In Zurich there are several excellent public establishments, such as an orphan-house, and a chirurgical seminary, both extremely well conducted. The public education is under the immediate protection of government. The office of a

professor gives rank and estimation, and is often held by a member of the senate, or of the great council. The learned languages, divinity, natural history, mathematics, and, in short, every species of polite learning, as well as the abstruse sciences, are here taught at a small expense, and with abundant care.

In consequence of this laudable attention to form the minds of youth, and to fan the flame of genius, no town in Switzerland has produced more eminent men than Zurich. Among others may be enumerated Zuinglius, Lavater, and Solomon Gesner : the first of these was the great religious reformer of Switzerland ; the second, the celebrated physiognomist ; and the third, the charming author of the beautiful poem of the Death of Abel.

In Zurich, as in the city of Berne, dissolute women, when become notorious, are apprehended, and sentenced to cleanse the public streets. Four, and sometimes six, are harnessed or linked to the scavengers' cart, which, on pain of the lash, they are sentenced to drag, step by step, through the streets ; while others sweep, gather up the soil, and shoot it into the cart. An officer, something like one of our parish beadles, superintends the execution of this punishment ; and if any relations or friends of the delinquents presume to afford them assistance, or even murmur at their sentence, they are immediately put in their places, to undergo the same disgrace and drudgery.

The Public Library of Zurich contains upwards

of 25,000 volumes, and some curious manuscripts. Among the latter is the original copy of Quintilian found in the library of St. Gallen, from which the first edition of that great rhetorician was published ;—the Psalms in the Greek tongue, written on violet-coloured parchment, supposed to have come from the Vatican at Rome ;—several manuscripts of Zuinglius, which evince the indefatigable industry of that celebrated reformer ;—and three Latin letters from Lady Jane Grey to Bullinger, in 1551, 2, 3. These letters, written with her own hand, breathe a spirit of unaffected piety, and prove the uncommon progress which this unfortunate, but accomplished woman, had made in various branches of literature, though only sixteen years old.

Zurich was the first place in Switzerland that separated from the church of Rome, being converted by the meek and moderate Zuinglius, a man who did credit to Christianity, by his love of peace, and hatred to strife. Far from supporting his peculiar dogmas with an intolerant zeal, he was persuaded, that, provided christians could agree in the most essential articles, they ought meekly to bear with any difference on points controvertible, and which do not necessarily influence the morals.

Having acknowledged the honours, civilities, conferred on us by the inhabitants, the Princess, after an early dinner, gave orders for our departure. Accordingly, leaving Zurich about

three o'clock, we travelled southwards, and about six arrived at Zug, the capital of the canton of the same name. This town is situated on the edge of the beautiful lake of Zug, in a fertile valley. The whole canton is populous and fruitful;—the lakes abound with fish, and the wood with game.

Oswald, one of our old British kings, is the titular saint of Zug. In the church is his statue, with this inscription:—

Sanctus Oswaldus Rex Angliæ Patronus hujus Ecclesiæ.

This Oswald was a king of Northumberland, in the seventh century. He was much renowned for chastity, and some supposed miracles which he is said to have performed.

Early next morning we left Zug, and, crossing the eastern portion of the Canton of Schwitz, we entered that of Uri, having passed by the celebrated lake of Lucerne. This lake, from the sublimity as well as variety of its scenery, is perhaps the finest body of water in Switzerland. It is bounded, toward the town of Lucerne, by cultivated hills, gradually sloping to the water, contrasted on the opposite bank by an enormous mass of sterile craggy rocks. Mount Pilate rises boldly from the lake, and its elevation is not less than six thousand feet. Another branch of the lake, called that of Schwitz, is environed by more lofty and more varied mountains; some covered to their very tops with the most vivid verdure; others perpendicular and craggy: in one place

forming vast amphitheatres of wood ; in another, jutting into the water in bold promontories.

In the close neighbourhood of this lake is Mount Pilate, formerly called Mons Pileatus, from its top being generally covered with a cloud, or cap. This word has been corrupted into Pilate, and a thousand ridiculous stories have been invented to account for the same. Among others, it is said, that Pontius Pilate, being seized with remorse, made an excursion into Switzerland, and drowned himself in a lake at the top of that mountain. At the elevation of five thousand feet, and in the most perpendicular part of Mount Pilate, is observed, in the middle of a cavern, hollowed in a black rock, a colossal statue of white stone. It is the figure of a man, in drapery, standing, leaning his elbow on a pedestal, with one leg crossed over the other, and so regularly formed, that it cannot be supposed to be a *lusus naturæ*. To this statue the peasants give the name of Dominic, and frequently accost it. By whom, or in what manner it could be placed in such a situation, which has hitherto proved inaccessible to all, it is difficult to conceive. About the beginning of the present century, one Huber, a native of a neighbouring village, attempted to descend into the cavern by means of ropes let down from the summit of the rock. He succeeded so far as to gain a near view of this singular phenomenon, and was again drawn up in safety. On a second trial he was suspended

in the air, and was endeavouring to draw himself into the cavern by fixing a grapple to the statue. At this instant the cord broke, and he was dashed to pieces.

Having breakfasted at Lucerne, we proceeded towards Altorf, where we arrived, and dined about three in the afternoon. ALTORF is the principal town of Uri, and is seated near the mouth of the Rea, on the lake of Lucerne. Here are two stone pillars, one hundred and thirty paces from each other, at which distance Tell is said to have shot the apple from his son's head. This deliverer of his country lived at Biorgli, near this place, and his cottage is changed into a chapel, where mass is solemnly said. In this town the tyrant Gesler exposed his hat to be saluted; which, with other enormities, laid the foundation of the liberties of Switzerland; near Altorf, the cantons of Uri, Schweitz, and Underwald, agreed to a perpetual alliance, that served as a basis for the illustrious confederation which ensued. In the year 1798, a large body of Swiss were defeated here by the French.

About eleven in the forenoon, the carriages and horses were in readiness for our conveyance to Urseren, a beautiful plain, surrounded by high mountains capped with snow:—here we arrived at about eight in the evening. Near the middle of this plain, is the valley of St. Gothard, filled with the ruins of broken mountains, and washed by the rapid and furious Reuss, which rolls

through blocks of granite, with irresistible impetuosity. This valley is remarkably dreary. It contains no vestige of a human habitation, nor does it produce a single tree. The extremity is closed by the still ruder and naked rocks of the Feudo, supporting in its hollows vast masses of snow, while the superb glacier of the Locendro towers above the adjacent heights.

The Princess and the whole party having refreshed, and engaged guides to Milan, retired early to rest, after the long, mountainous, and weary journey, which they had performed throughout the day.

The canton of Uri abounds with mountains, the chief of which is St. Gothard, just mentioned. Over it is carried a fine road, in one continued ascent of eight hours, to the very summit. This road deserves particular notice, being, in most parts, six feet wide, and every where well paved during its whole ascent. The Reuss runs by its side; over which are several handsome bridges. This road, in summer, is perfectly safe, not only for horses, but even for carriages; though, in winter, the fall of masses of snow has proved fatal to many travellers. It lies between very high mountains, the lower parts of which are covered with thick woods, but above are quite bare. Several parts exhibit the most beautiful cataracts, either from the Reuss, or other smaller streams; while many of them, by reason of the rocks which obstruct their passage, are thrown

into a mist, which, by the refracting rays of the sun, form a variety of rainbows, and at the same time both charm and cool the traveller. But as he advances, he is terrified at the view of frightful rocks hanging over the road, and so worn out underneath, that they appear as if they were going to fall and crush him to atoms. On the other hand, when he finds himself shut in on all sides by such stupendous mountains, of vastly different aspects, some bare, and others tufted with trees, and abounding with various sorts of medicinal herbs, he has reason to admire the wonderful works of the Creator, and to extol the industry and ingenuity of the inhabitants, who, at an immense hazard, toil, and expence, keep these roads open. For this purpose they join rocks together by arched bridges cut away through several rocks; and, when the road seems ready to sink, support it by stout walls and buttresses, with great posts, which they drive deep into the earth, and stones, which they fasten to one another by iron hooks.

CHAPTER VI.

The Princess crosses the Alps.—Roads.—Italy infested by Banditti.—Some particulars concerning these Maurauders.—Anecdote of the supposed Capture of Lucien Buonaparte.—Enter the Valley of Piedmont.—Cultivation and Fertility of this Region.—View from Montcallier.—Arrival at Turin.

WHILST crossing the Alps, it was impossible to be insensible of the emotions which their history, ruggedness, elevation, and present improvements inspired. The magnificent roads which have lately been opened amidst these precipices, have destroyed the barriers which nature had bestowed on Italy. These vast works are, doubtless, the noblest proofs of civilization ; but in levelling the rocks, the Alps have been lowered, and the illusions of this romantic scenery have been partially destroyed. These vast mountains no longer inspire terror by their mere name ; but civilization has not proceeded so far as to divest them of other terrors ; viz. those which arise from the numerous banditti which infest them and the other mountainous districts of Italy.

The existence of these bands of robbers is no problem but to those who are ignorant of Italy. Even in Piedmont, which, from its fertility and other natural blessings, should be the most civilized

country in the world, many of the peasants have enriched themselves by assassination and robbery. The vigorous measures of the French Government, whilst they had possession of Italy, certainly contributed much to allay these shameful disorders, and the traveller no longer trembled in the centre of Europe, for the safety of his life or his liberty. But the evil has since returned; and has proceeded to a more enormous and incredible extent than ever.

These bands are chiefly composed of inhabitants or disbanded soldiers, who were first driven to this course by want of employment and extreme distress, but who now find it a trade, which from day to day grows more and more lucrative—a trade of which the infamy falls less, undoubtedly, upon the men who pursue it, than upon the government by whom it is protected, not only by the absence of all measures of suppression of the evil, but by direct capitulations which some of the Italian governments have signed with these robbers.

Concealed within the mountains bordering upon the great roads, the intrepidity, the coolness, and above all the tactics of these men, too plainly betray the former profession of their leaders. They have their spies in the towns, in the inns, and on the roads. The moment their prey presents himself, already acquainted with the value of the prize, they pour down upon him, and their number and resolution render resistance useless, and even

extremely dangerous. These men, who, in fact, want nothing but your purse, are not generally so ferocious as their appearance would seem to announce. Very rarely do they proceed to acts of cruelty, except when their own personal safety demands such acts: in a word, they never kill but to avoid being killed. As soon as they see the traveller's carriage approaching, they draw a strong cord across the road in front of him, and this either throws or stops the horses. One of the gang goes to the head of the horses, others cut the traces, and others seize the luggage and carry it off; meantime two of them open the doors of the carriage, make the travellers descend, and, in the most profound silence, with their pistols at their breasts, keep them in awe, while others search their persons, and sometimes abridge their work by cutting the traveller's clothes by pieces from off his back.

All this is the business of a few minutes: and occurs regularly two or three times a month, in spite of pretended guards, placed from distance to distance to escort the traveller. Whilst we were travelling from Rome to Naples, several of these brigands, who had been shut up for some time in a castle, were on the point of marching out, and actually did afterwards march out, in virtue of a capitulation signed by them and the government of the church.

The banditti of Sicily, at least the men whom Brydone calls such, are scrupulous and honourable

people, and very little to be feared, compared with those. The Sicilian robber attacks or defends you, kills you or hinders your being killed, according to the compact you make or neglect: their bands are true insurance companies; the policy once signed, the chances are thenceforth at their risk. More cruel and more fierce than the African pirate, the Italian banditti make not only your liberty, but your life dependent on the payment of your ransom. By an audacity which is shamefully suffered to show itself with impunity, they treat daily with the relatives or friends of those who have fallen into their hands: a bill of exchange, extorted from the captive, is coolly presented by one of the robbers to his relations, or his banker, and the prisoner's head answers to the banditti for the payment. Twenty examples of this kind, known to all Italy, might be set down here; but I content myself with the following, because of its great interest.

On the hills which overlook Frascati, a town situated about three leagues from Rome, are the ruins of the famous *Tusculum*. In the midst of these ruins, rises a handsome modern house, named Ruffinella, which belonged to Lucien Buonaparte. Robbers, at noon day, penetrated into the gardens of this dwelling. Lucien was walking there, saw them, and, guessing their design, flew to a pavilion where his family were assembled. His haste to open the door hindered his attempt: and, to screen himself from his enemies, he threw

himself into a neighbouring plantation. The cry which he uttered, drew his principal secretary to the spot where he had been, which he reached in the same moment as the robbers; he was taken by them for Lucien, and they seized and carried him away to the mountains. This faithful servant knew well that he was taken for his master, and left them in their error, to give Lucien and his family time to escape.

The next day all Rome knew the fact. At the end of a few days more, a man delivered a letter to Lucien. The letter set an enormous price as a ransom for him whom the robbers still took for Lucien. The police of Rome knew all this, and remained quiet: the ransom was paid, and the generous friend of Lucien was set at liberty; but still the police of Rome remained neutral and quiet. Lucien never more set foot on this estate; and the most frightful misery at present weighs down a country into which he had introduced comfort and happiness, the fruit of employment and industry.

We, however, were under no great apprehension from these banditti, on account of a well-armed escort which the Princess had previously hired at Altorf: consequently, having nothing to fear, the whole party enjoyed the scenes exhibited in these alpine regions, which the philosophic mind cannot help contemplating with wonder and admiration.

Having crossed the Alps, we entered Piedmont, which is the most northern state of Italy.

This country, which was formerly named Lombardy, extends from the foot of the Alps to those of the Apennines, over a vast plain watered by the Po. This extensive region may be termed the garden of Europe, and is unquestionably, of all its countries, the most favoured by nature. The soil deposited by the waters, as rich as it is deep, is almost every where of a perfect level. It is only in the immediate vicinity of the mountains that stony banks are found: the whole of the plain consists of a black earth of great fertility.

The lofty mountains by which Lombardy is every where surrounded, pour into it a prodigious number of streams, which art has not yet succeeded in entirely controlling, but whose currents are broken into an infinite number of canals for irrigation; so that there is scarcely a farm, or a meadow, which has not one of these canals, with its sluice, at command. This copious irrigation, in so fine a climate, combines with the action of a southern sun, to produce the utmost luxuriance of vegetation.

These great natural advantages have, from a remote period, filled Lombardy with an immense population, and its usual consequences; such as numerous towns, and consequently markets, excellent roads leading from all parts of the country, and the subdivision of the land into innumerable small farms, each with a farm-house in the centre of it, together with a system of skilful cultivation, which allows neither time nor room to be lost.

The harvests are inclosed by plantations of fruit-trees of all kinds, intermixed with mulberries, poplars, and oaks. The last two are not planted merely for their shade, but as supports for the vines, the branches of which, spreading in every direction, cover them as it were with a canopy, and fall in festoons.

The luxuriance of the plantations throughout Lombardy is such, that the eye is unable to penetrate them ; the horizon of the traveller is always contracted, and opens only as he advances. The succession of landscapes thus presented, which continually excites the imagination with the expectation of something new ; the verdant freshness ; the innumerable habitations, uniting a sort of elegance to commodiousness ; the fields, whose shady inclosures have an agreeable air of wildness, while their rich cultivation announces all the economy of rural wealth ; present at once a contrast and an harmony, which no other country possesses in an equal degree. The traveller finds, not the gigantic and monotonous vegetation of India ; nor the extensive farms which occupy the uniform plains of the North ; nor those savage scenes in which the cool vales of Switzerland are embosomed ; but he traverses a region which partakes of the character of each of these diversities of scenery, and reminds him of them by seeming to unite them all.

From Montcallier, near Turin, on the summit of which stands a mansion, formerly the residence

of the royal family, but which is now uninhabitable, and retains nothing of its ancient grandeur but the fine landscape which it commands, the eye follows the river Po, winding in numerous meanders through the country; its shores covered with plantations, which partly conceal the farmhouses and hamlets scattered among them. At the termination of the plain, the view is bounded by the majestic inclosure of the Alps and Appennines, which rise like a noble amphitheatre to guard these fertile vales. These bulwarks of nature still strike the imagination, at the same time that they teach us that the globe has no longer any ramparts insurmountable to the genius and enterprise of man.

The number of towns in Piedmont is surprising; and yet this limited country, having a great part of its surface occupied by mountains, after satisfying its own wants, supplies the territory of Genoa, Nice, and even the port of Toulon, with corn and cattle.

On entering Turin, we were agreeably surprised to find it in every respect a handsome, flourishing, and bustling city. It is the capital of Piedmont, and may boast of a display of merchandise in the shops, equal almost to any city in France or Italy. Our hotel presented every appearance of comfort and luxury; and in short, every thing throughout the city presented so pleasing an appearance, that, had not the Princess previously

determined on residing at Milan, she doubtless would have been induced to remain at Turin.

Italy, the very sound of whose name conveys to a cultivated mind, ideas of delightful tranquillity, of a refined enjoyment, now lay, as it were, at our feet. The situation and climate of Italy give it a beauty and fertility which is unequalled; it is justly termed the garden of Europe, and is perhaps the most delicious region on the surface of the whole globe. The extreme purity of the atmosphere, the consequent brightness of the light, and the distinct appearance of remote objects, give an almost magical effect to the landscape scenery of Italy. The effect of this universal stillness and serenity upon so favoured a region, at once delights and astonishes. Nature seems here to have collected all her means of ornament, all her arts of pleasing; fertile and extensive plains, varied with gentle swells and bold elevations; mountains, of every shape, outline and degree, sometimes advancing, sometimes retiring, but always in distinct view, presenting in one place their shaggy declivities darkened with woods, in another a long line of brown rugged precipices, now lifting, as it were to the sky, a head of snow, and now a summit of the most beautiful purple tint; unfolding, as you advance, and discovering in their windings, the richest valleys, populous villages, the bright expanded lake, the winding river sparkling in its course, convents,

and cities : these, the true materials of picturesque beauty, are the constant and almost invariable features of Italian scenery. Such scenes are hailed with delight, as the harbingers of repose, even by those who seek it but from the lighter cares of life ; the greater necessity of such tranquillizing objects to our illustrious Princess may be readily conceived. To contemplate a country, every spot of which, every river, every mountain, and every forest, which adorns and diversifies it, has been distinguished by the noblest energies of the human mind, and are become monuments of intellectual worth and glory, enlarges the understanding, and inspires generous and exalting sentiments ; the overcharged heart finds relief in the variety and dignity of such objects, and, as its acquaintance with them is extended, becomes softened and amended, in the same proportion. With such reflections, which must prevail in every cultivated and well constituted mind, did we leave the Alps, those stupendous barriers which nature seems to have planted for the defence, and as an everlasting line of distinction between this lovely country and less favoured climates. These mountains no longer separate the nations between whom they are placed, and the facility of communication tends to efface the originality of national character ; a similarity of manners is acquired with similar habits and similar necessities ; national peculiarities gradually disappear amidst a community

of all the customs of life ; and the European traveller finds himself, wherever he goes, surrounded by the same comforts and conveniencies.

We were struck with this sentiment on our arrival at Turin. I could have fancied myself in some large and handsome town of France ; so great a resemblance was there in all the objects that met the eye. One would have supposed that the dresses, the ornaments, the shops, the promenades, and the placards in the streets, had been sent from Paris.

Our hotel afforded every appearance of comfort and modern refinement, and the general air of the city was sufficiently attractive to invite longer stay, if the Princess had not previously determined to make Milan her first place of residence.

TURIN is the capital of the province of Piedmont, and is of very ancient origin, but of comparatively modern fame. Its importance commenced in the thirteenth century, when it became the residence of the princes of Savoy, and assumed the honours of a capital. Since that period, it has continued in a progressive state of improvement, and became, about the middle of the last century, one of the most populous and flourishing cities in Italy.

Turin is beautifully situated on the northern branch of the river Po, at the foot of a fine ridge of hills, which rise southward, beyond the river ; while northward there lies an extensive plain bounded by the Alps, which here present a scene

of singular beauty ; they ascend in some places in groups of gigantic dimensions, like battlemented towers, whilst, in other parts, they exhibit detached points, which seem to dart to the clouds like the most magnificent spires, glittering with unmelted icicles, and with snows that never yield to the rays of summer. The interior of the town is not unworthy its fame and situation ; its streets are straight, and of a handsome width, intersecting each other at right angles, and running in a direct line between its four gates, taking their course through many large and regular squares. The royal palace is spacious, and surrounded with gardens of great beauty and extent. There are many edifices, both public and private, which present extensive and magnificent fronts, and these, intermingled with at least one hundred churches of an elegant and imposing character of architecture, give the whole city a rich and most splendid appearance. The churches and palaces are very richly embellished ; marble of every variety of vein and colour is lavished with prodigality, and decorations of every kind are scattered with profusion. The four gates of the city were formerly adorned with pillars, and cased with marble ; and are represented as extremely striking and majestic entrances.

Turin was, in the days of its prosperity, possessed of the most magnificent establishments ; an academy, the regulations of which were singularly advantageous to its students, who were con-

sidered as a part of the court, and were admitted to all its amusements. Its university was also of great importance: it occupied a very extensive range of buildings, containing a library of more than fifty thousand volumes; a museum furnished with a numerous collection of exquisite statues, vases, and other antiques of various denominations; an excellent collection of medals; a hall of anatomy, admirably furnished; and an astronomical observatory. It was endowed for twenty four professors, all of whom delivered daily lectures, and were generally authors, and men of great reputation in their respective departments of science. Two colleges were dependent upon the university, remarkable also for their spaciousness and magnificence, as well as the number of their students; the whole arrangement forming an establishment for the purposes of public education of the most noble description.

Turin was also at that period richly endowed in hospitals. One of these deserves particular remembrance; it furnished at the same time provisions and employment to the poor, education to orphans, an asylum to the sick and the decayed, and a dowry to marriageable girls. Many establishments of a similar nature, but on a more confined scale, contributed to the same objects in different parts of the city, and left no form of misery without the means of adequate and speedy relief.

While this city continued to be the residence of

its sovereigns, it was thus animated, populous, and flourishing. The court was equally remarkable for its polished character, and its regularity; and was much frequented by foreigners, because justly considered as affording the best introduction to the manners and language of Italy.

This prosperity of Turin, and its celebrity, is in justice to be ascribed to the spirit, the prudence, the activity, and the genius of its princes. Its disasters, and decline, have arisen from its close vicinity to a powerful and ambitious neighbour. The armies of France have, at different periods during the last five centuries, repeatedly over-run its territories, assailed its defences, destroyed its suburbs, and, in various degrees, according to the circumstances of their ability, injured its edifices.

A city of such celebrity, so justly remarkable both in its prosperity and its sufferings, the first naturally resulting from the virtuous government of its princes, the latter clearly arising from the worst passions of mankind, could not, as may well be imagined, be passed over by Her Royal Highness without commiseration: a mind fraught with intelligence, and itself deeply wounded by the wanton abuse of power, must be expected to have viewed these fallen monuments of human wisdom with regret: establishments calculated to ameliorate the character and the condition of the human race, and which were deserving objects of imitation to all nations, had been indiscriminately swept away by the hand of caprice and barbarism.

The country in the immediate vicinity of the

city possesses considerable beauty and diversity. Its first and most conspicuous feature is the river Po, which gives its name to the principal street of Turin, and rolls in all its grandeur under the very walls. The depth of this river is so great and remarkable, that it obtained in ancient times the appellation of *Bodinco*, or bottomless. This extraordinary and magnificent stream takes its rise about twenty-five or thirty miles from Turin to the westward, in the recesses of a mountain. It becomes completely navigable even before it reaches Turin, though so near its source, and in a course which, including its windings, extends to three hundred miles, in which it receives thirty rivers, washes the walls of fifty towns and cities, and confers life and spirit, fertility and opulence, to the celebrated plains called from it, *Regio Circumpadana*. Its average breadth from Turin to Ariano is about twelve hundred feet; its depth is every where considerable, and its current strong and equal. It is justly called the king of Italian rivers, and is ranked among the principal streams of modern Europe. It is continually seen in its beautiful and various meanderings by the traveller between the Alps and Apennines, and from its own magnificent effect, as well as the air of grandeur and richness which it imparts to the surrounding country, it is always beheld with interest and admiration.

Although our stay at Turin was but short, another object of interest could not but attract our notice; the mountain of the Superga, and the

lofty temple which crowns its summit. The great elevation of the hill itself, its highly picturesque appearance, the cause, the destination, and the corresponding magnificence of the edifice, are strong claims upon the curiosity of even an inattentive traveller. The Superga is about five miles from Turin, the ascent is gradual, and the road good. It was on the summit of this hill, that during the famous siege of Turin, in the year 1706, by the French, Prince Eugene held a consultation with Victor Amadeus, and formed the plan for the attack of the besieging enemy, and the deliverance of the town. The sovereign made a vow, if heaven prospered his arms, to build a church on the very spot, as an eternal monument of his gratitude. He succeeded; the French were defeated with great slaughter, the siege of the town was abandoned, and the church was built. The edifice is worthy of its origin. It is really a grand memorial of royal and national acknowledgment. Its situation is peculiarly well adapted to its object. Placed on the utmost pinnacle of a lofty mountain, it is distinctly visible, not only to the inhabitants of Turin, but of the whole country for many miles round, and instantly catches the eye of every traveller.

The church is of circular form, supported by pillars; the portico is ornamented with pillars, and the dome rises on pillars. All these columns are of beautiful marble of different colours, and give the edifice an appearance unusually rich and stately.

CHAPTER VII.

Departure from Turin.—The Plain of Turin.—Rivers.—Lakes.—Observations on the Lakes.—Comparison between the Italian and British Lakes.—Colossal Statue of immense size.—The Passage of the Simplon.—Lago Maggiore. Milan.

HER Royal Highness took her departure from Turin, without any alteration in the arrangement of her suite, and proceeded direct to Milan. Our course lay over a flat and fertile country, which has been the theatre of numerous sanguinary contests between the French, Spaniards, and Austrians, during the two last centuries. In our progress we crossed several small rivers, which still retain their ancient appellations.

The striking superiority of the lakes of Italy, over those of Great Britain, renders them objects of great interest with the traveller; Her Royal Highness's taste, which led her eventually to fix a residence on the banks of one of these charming scenes, will be admired and applauded in proportion as we render ourselves acquainted with their singular beauties and advantages.

The lakes of Westmoreland and Cumberland are to England what those of the Milanese territory are to Italy: but in beauty, magnitude, and

grandeur, there is scarcely any comparison to be drawn. Although England is considered, as regards the face of the country, to be a fine miniature picture of Europe at large, yet with respect to its lakes and mountains, it is very far inferior; the lakes and hills of Britain sink into insignificance, when compared with similar objects in the Alpine regions. To a traveller accustomed to the prodigiously grand scenery of this, and indeed every part of Italy, our boasted Windermere becomes a lifeless pool, our lofty Skiddau shrinks into a hillock. The lake of Ullswater alone, in comparative boldness of its banks, may perhaps present a faint resemblance to some parts of the Lago di Como, but the parallel is confined to that single feature. The rocks of Buttermere are certainly of a grand character, but the sheet of water beneath them is insignificant. Our famous Scotch lake, Loch Lomond, has a certain similarity to the Benacus of Italy, in its width of expanse and the gradual swell of its banks, but the resemblance goes no farther; the little islands which are interspersed in the broadest part of Loch Lomond, possess a considerable share of beauty; but the heavy form of Benlomond, its heathy sides and naked brow, with the lifeless masses around it, which are, however, the only grand features the prospect can pretend to, are very indifferent substitutes for the noble ridge of the Alps that borders the Benacus, and presents every mountain form and colour, from the curve to the

pinnacle, from the deep tints of the forest to the dazzling brightness of snow. When to these conspicuous advantages we add the life and interest which such scenes derive from churches, villas, hamlets and towns, placed as if by the hand of a painter in the most striking situations, so as to contrast with the surrounding picture and give it relief, we describe the peculiar and characteristic features which distinguish the lakes of Italy, and give them an undisputed superiority.

At this point of our progress, it will greatly conduce to a clear understanding of the scenes to be described, if a distinct idea be obtained of the general face of the country to be passed over.

It is probably within the familiar knowledge of most of our readers, that Italy is separated from the countries which border it at its northern extremity, by the Alps, the highest ridge of mountains in the ancient world. It is bounded on its eastern side by the Adriatic Sea, or Gulf of Venice, on the west by the Mediterranean, and on the south by the Ionian seas; numberless islands line its shores; and its general figure and course is that of a narrow strip of land running in the direction of north and south. Such are its external circumstances. In the interior, the mountains called the Apennines extend through its whole length, and, branching out into various ramifications, divide it into several provinces, materially differing in their climates and productions. The geographical situation of Italy exposes it to a con-

siderable degree of heat in summer, and of cold in winter; but the influence of the seas and of the mountains that surround or intersect it, counteracts those effects, and produces a temperature that excludes all extremes, and renders every season delightful. The action of these causes is, however, unequal, and the climate of the country at large, though every where in a high degree genial and temperate, varies considerably, and more so in some instances than the distances of the places so differing might induce the traveller to expect. Without entering tediously into these variations, which are the effect of the various bearings of the different ranges of mountains, it will be sufficient to consider Italy as divided into four principal regions, which, although possessing in climate, scenery, and productions, many features in common, have also each a characteristic peculiarity. The first of these regions is the vale of the Po, or the territory vulgarly termed Lombardy; this is sometimes spoken of as the territory of Milan, or the Milanese. This region extends about two hundred and sixty miles in length, and in breadth, in the widest part, one hundred and fifty. It is bounded by the Alps and the Apennines on the north, west, and south, and on the east lies open to the Adriatic. The second is the tract enclosed by the Apennines, forming the Roman and Tuscan territories. The third is confined to the Campagna Felix and its immediate dependencies, such as the borders and the islands

of the Bay of Naples, and of the plains of Pæstum. The last consists of Labruzzo, Apulia, Calabria, and the southern extremities of Italy.

The first of these regions or climates, or the Milanese, has been represented by many as perhaps the most fertile and the most delicious territory in the whole universe. This is the particular division of Italy which is designated the garden of Europe, and is properly the agricultural district of the country. It will be recollected, that her Royal Highness's residence at Milan, and also her establishment at the Villa D'Este, on the borders of the Lake of Como, are situated in this part of Italy.

The Milanese country derives its extraordinary fertility from the numerous streams that descend from the bordering mountains, and furnish a constant supply to the majestic river that intersects it, the Po. But while the mountains thus fertilize it with their innumerable rills, they also send down occasional gales, to cool it in summer, and blasts that sometimes chill its climate, and give its winter some features of northern severity, slight indeed, but sufficient to check the growth of such plants as the orange and the almond, which shrink from frost in its most mitigated aspect. The vine, though common and indeed luxuriant, is supposed not to prosper in this part of Italy, from the wines being thin and sour; this defect however must not be ascribed solely to the climate, which, in warmth and uniformity, far excels that of the famous French

provinces of Champagne and Burgundy, but to the Italian mode of cultivation. In Italy the vine is allowed to raise itself into the air, to spread from branch to branch, and equal its surrounding elms and poplars in elevation and luxuriancy of growth. This, though beautiful to the eye, and delightful to the fancy, is not so favourable to the quality of the wines, which are well known to become richer and stronger when the growth of the plant is repressed, and its energies confined within a smaller range.

The second climate is protected from the blasts of the north by an additional ridge of mountains, so that it is less obnoxious to the action of frost, and is indeed less liable to be incommoded by the heats of summer than by wintry cold. Its productions accordingly improve in strength and flavour; its wines are more generous, and its orchards are graced with the orange. Even this part of the country is however exposed occasionally to chill piercing blasts, and is not entirely free from the frosts and snows of the less favoured countries beyond the Alps.

In the third climate, that is, in the delightful plains of Campagna, so much, and so deservedly celebrated by travellers, painters, and poets, nature seems to pour out all her treasures with complacency, and confides, without sparing or distrust, her most delicate productions to ever genial gales, and a sky uniformly serene.

The plains of Apulia, that lie beyond the

Apennines, opening to the rising sun, with the coasts of Abruzzo and Calabria, from the last and fourth division, differ only from that which precedes in increasing warmth, and in productions more characteristic of a southern latitude, such as the aloe and the majestic palm; objects which, though not common, occur often enough to afford novelty and variety to the scenery. This distinction of climate is, strictly speaking, confined to the plains, as the mountains that limit them vary according to their elevation, and, at the same time, enclose in their windings, valleys which enjoy in the south the cool temperature of the Milanese, and in the north glow with all the sultriness of Abruzzo. Such, in few words, is the real geography of Italy. By a clear recollection of these differences of climate and circumstances, or by having reference to them, the reader will, in many cases, find himself in possession of the true reason of Her Royal Highness's changes of residence, which have in too many instances been most unfairly and mischievously tortured into a needless desire of change, or a blameable impatience of the restraints of society at particular places. To a reader thus acquainted with the differences of climate which occur in Italy, the various journeys, and the changes of residence, of the Princess of Wales, will satisfactorily appear to have been dictated by a cultivated taste and sound intelligence; and to have been exactly such as might have been expected, and would have

formed the arrangement of every rational and enlightened traveller of Her Royal Highness's rank. The English reader may indeed find some difficulty, when he observes the taste always displayed, the fearless spirit of enterprise always evinced when the object of research required such exertion, the gentleness and amiable condescension of demeanour on all occasions, and the high-toned liberality and kindness of sentiment under a *voluntary limitation of means*; an observing reader, I say, will be at a loss to reconcile these traits of a truly royal character, with the tasteless profusion, the capricious movements, the eternal vacillations, and, above all, the evident want of an active and enquiring mind, in the conduct of other exalted personages to whose *unlimited means* he daily contributes a serious portion of his necessary comforts.

The climate of Italy is therefore now, as it was anciently, temperate, though inclined to heat. The rays of the sun are powerful even in winter; and the summer, particularly when the Sirocco wind blows, is sultry and sometimes oppressive. The heat, however, is never intolerable, as the air is frequently cooled by breezes from the mountains, and on the southern coast refreshed by a regular gale from the sea. The breeze rises about eight in the morning, and blows without interruption till four in the afternoon, delightfully tempering the burning suns of Naples, and sweeping before it the sullen vapours that

brood over the torrid regions of the Campagna. The windings and recesses of the mountains also afford, as they ascend, several retreats, where, in the greatest heats of summer, and during the very fiercest glow of the dog-days, the traveller may enjoy the vernal coolness and the mild temperature of England. Of this description are the baths of Lucca, situated in a long withdrawing vale, and shaded by forests of chesnuts; such is Vallombrosa, encircled by the forests of the Apennine; and such too is the situation of the Sabine Villa of Horace, concealed in one of the woody dells of Mount Lucretilis, where the oak and the ilex waft a refreshing coolness and secure the most delightful shade. Though rain is not frequent during the spring and summer months, yet occasional showers fall in sufficient abundance to refresh the air and revive the face of nature. These showers are generally accompanied by thunder storms, and when these occur at the untimely season of the harvest, they often are the occasion of considerable mischief. Such periodical rains, and the accidental showers, the local effects of the surrounding mountains and seas, and even the clouds and storms of winter, are but transient and temporary interruptions of the general serenity that constitutes one of the principal advantages of this delightful climate. A traveller returning to England, and finds himself wrapped in the impenetrable gloom of a London fog, or sees the gay months of May and June clouded with

perpetual vapours, cannot but turn his recollection with complacency to the pure azure that canopies Rome and Naples, and contemplates in thought and with regret the splendid tints that adorn the vernal skies of Italy; a country, in truth, which none ever saw for the first time but with astonishment and delight, quitted it without reluctance, or revisited but with renewed pleasure.

In the midst of such considerations, let us never lose sight of the peculiar circumstances under which our illustrious and beloved traveller was compelled both to commence and close her travels. Her Royal Highness quitted the duller climate of England, to seek repose and protection in a country, whose circumstances might produce a dignified employment for the mind, and whose climate should be conducive to health. As Princess of Wales, she voluntarily put aside the frivolous round of pomp, magnanimously refused to increase the burthens of the British people by accepting an increase of revenue voted her by Parliament; and to avoid the bitter cup of persecution continually forced upon her, she sought the refuge which a visit to the land of her birth and to Italy might be rationally expected to afford; and when, as far as circumstances would permit, the quiet she sought was obtained, her ardent mind was further engaged in learned researches of enterprise and danger. But even here, and in this honourable path of distinction, the wanton spirit of persecution which drove her from

England, unrelentingly pursued her to her dignified retreat ; and in the character of Queen Consort of Great Britain, she justly considered herself impelled to quit scenes in which, in her former station, she might have enjoyed quiet, and vindicate the insulted laws of morals and humanity, by an appeal to her sympathising and generous-hearted subjects. To estimate properly her Majesty's sufferings, we must therefore take into account the frequency and the nature of the disturbing interruptions with which the hand of power has assailed her ; and the clear and defined knowledge of the countries in which she was resident, is strictly essential to this point.

To return to our route in the Milanese, in which district was the first residence of the Princess. It will be proper to remind the reader, that this is properly the agricultural part of Italy ; and the management of which most nearly assimilates to our notions of agricultural management, although differing sufficiently to make a particular account of it highly interesting to us.

From Turin, on the way to Milan, lies Vercelli, a city of great antiquity, which still retains its Roman name, and probably containing as great a population as in Roman times. It enjoyed a transient gleam of liberty and independence in the middle ages, but never rose to any extraordinary celebrity. It is at present a handsome and flourishing town ; but, except the beautiful portico of its cathedral, it possesses few remarkable objects.

At Arona, a traveller's attention is strongly excited by the extraordinary colossal statue of St. Charles Borromeo, an exemplary archbishop of Milan. The statue is erected on the summit of a hill near the town. It represents the archbishop in an attitude equally appropriate to his office and to his benevolent feelings, as turned towards Milan, and with an extended arm imploring the benediction of heaven upon its inhabitants. It is supported by a marble pedestal of forty-two feet in height, and is itself seventy; it is of bronze, and is supposed to be very finely executed. St. Charles seems more fully entitled to the honours of a statue, than most of the exalted personages to whom we are accustomed to see them erected. He claims it under a double capacity, both as a blameless and virtuous priest, and as a public benefactor. It must also be acknowledged, that such a monument of public gratitude and veneration is highly honourable to the people who conceived and erected it. It bespeaks public feelings grand and capacious, and, while it far surpasses the diminutive distinctions of modern nations, it emulates the style and imperial honours of the Romans. A little above the town of Arona stands a castle now in ruins. It was once the principal residence of the Borromean family, where St. Charles was born; yet neither this circumstance, nor its strength and commanding position, could secure it against neglect and decay.

In this immediate neighbourhood is the Sem-

pione, or Simplon, a remarkable mountain, the highest of the Italian Alps: it is covered with perpetual snow, and is of some celebrity, from the passage of the French armies over it previous to the battle of Marengo. A road is now formed over it upon a grand scale, by the French government, for the purpose of opening an easy and commodious communication with Milan. The most difficult part of the road commences at the spot where a torrent bursts through a vast chasm in the rock, and rushes headlong into a valley. A bridge is thrown over this chasm, and the road then, like all the passages of the Alps, follows the windings of the defile and the course of the torrent, sometimes on a level with its bank, and at other times raised along the side of the mountain, and on the verge of a precipice. The solid rock has been blown up by mining with gunpowder, for the enlargement of the passage; and in one spot, where the mass of granite which overhung the torrent was too vast to be misplaced, and too prominent to be worked externally, it was hollowed out, and an opening made of about sixty feet in length, twelve in breadth, and as many in height. The descent is very gradual, and in the highest degree safe and commodious. It now forms the principal communication between Italy, France, and Switzerland; since no art nor labour can render the neighbouring mountains, Cenis, St. Bernard, or St. Gothard, by any means so secure and practicable. The village which gives its name to

the mountain, does not stand on, but near the summit, and is called by its inhabitants Sempeldorf. A few miles to the northward of Arona lies the celebrated Lake Maggiore; on the lake is situated a large and handsome village, called Laveno; and close to this, on the northern side, there rises a rough and craggy mountain, that pours a constant stream in a cascade from its front. In the front of the village spreads the widest expansion of the lake. The ancient name of this lake was Verbanus; its modern appellation is derived from its greater magnitude, or rather from its superior beauty, for in this latter quality only is the neighbouring lake of Como inferior to it. Opposite the bay of the village Laveno there opens another bay, and in the centre of the latter rise the Borromean islands, which are considered the principal ornaments of the lake, and are ranked indeed among the wonders of Italy. The widest part of the Lago Maggiore is about seven or eight miles, while the depth is not less than one thousand eight hundred feet! The imagination takes alarm at the idea of skimming, in a light and frail boat, over the surface of such a tremendous abyss. The first island of this lake in fame, as well as the most attractive in appearance, is called the Isola Bella, or the Beautiful Island; it derives its appellation of Beautiful from the palace and gardens which cover its surface. The palace stands on the extremity of the island, and almost hangs over

the water. The scenes here, indeed, seem to realize the tales of fairy land, and a traveller from the heavy and busy scenes of England moves and breathes as it were in a new element. It contains upon the lower story a suite of rooms fitted up in the style of grottoes, and is paved, lined, and even arched with spars, shells, and partly-coloured marbles, and in appearance delightfully cool and refreshing. Two magnificent saloons in the principal story form the state apartments. The garden occupies nearly the whole island. It consists of a vast pyramid, formed of ten terraces arising above each other, and terminating in a square platform. These terraces have gravel walks their whole length; they are bordered with the most exquisite flowers, and their walls are covered with the choicest fruit-trees. Rows of orange and citron shade the walks, and gigantic statues, which when viewed at near distances appear grotesque, crowd the angles and front of the palace. These delightful parterres are watered by fountains that rise in different parts of the edifice, and fall in sheets from marble vases. The area of the pyramid covers a space of four hundred feet square; the platform on its summit is fifty feet square, and its elevation about one hundred and fifty. The terraces are supported by arcades, which form so many grand galleries or green-houses, in which the more delicate plants and flowers are placed during the winter season.

The form and arrangement of this splendid garden have been the subject of great admiration during part of the last century, and the Isola Bella has been represented by many as a terrestrial paradise, an enchanted island. The most respectable writers and travellers have pronounced it to be the finest and most charming summer residence in the known world, and considered the epithet "enchanted" as scarcely misapplied to it. The difference of taste in landscape gardening has however in modern times moderated the exuberance of this praise; but if the spot was before too highly extolled, it must be said that it is now too much neglected.

Praise is certainly due to the man who had taste and discernment enough to select such a spot for his residence, and the more as it was originally a bare and craggy, or rather shapeless rock, and had no recommendation, its site being till then unnoticed. In the next place it would be unjust not to applaud the nobleman, who, instead of wasting his income in the fashionable amusements of a neighbouring capital, devoted it to works which gave employment to thousands of hands, diffused riches over a large extent of country, and converted barren rocks into productive and populous islands. Edifices that give a permanent beauty to a country; that exercise the taste and talents of the age in which they are erected, and become monuments of that taste and of those talents to posterity,

are proofs of public spirit, and deserve our praise and acknowledgement. To us as Englishmen, and more especially to our Royal traveller, these feelings are forced upon us by the contrast between these scenes and the tasteless and unaccountable extravagance of our own rulers in the erection of *their* palaces. To this we may add, as to the Isola Bella, that if pleasant walks at all seasons, and the most delicious fruit in abundance, be objects of importance in gardening; we must allow the merit of utility to an arrangement which multiplies space, sunshine, and shade, and adapt itself in some measure to the state of the weather and to the fancy of the proprietor. However, even modern taste will be gratified and delighted with a grove, lining the north side of the garden, formed of various evergreens, but particularly of the bay-laurel, of great height and most luxuriant foliage. A path winding in an easy curve through this thicket leads to a town, and thence to a palace. This grove, from its resemblance to domestic scenery, awakens pleasing recollections in the mind of an English traveller. A high wall surrounds the whole island, but it is so constructed as to form a terrace, and thus to aid the prospect. This prospect, particularly from the top of the pyramid, is truly magnificent—The vast expanse of water immediately under the eye, with the neighbouring islands, covered with houses, and trees; the bay of Magotzo, bordered with lofty

hills westward; eastward the town of Laveno, with its towering mountain; to the south Stresa; the winding of the lake, with numberless villages, sometimes on the margin of the water, sometimes on gentle swells, and sometimes on the sides and craggs of mountains; to the north, first the little town of Palanza at the foot of a bold promontory, then a succession of villages and mountains bordering the lake as it stretches in a bold sweep towards the Alps, and loses itself amid their vast snow-crowned pinnacles. The banks of the lake are well wooded, and finely varied with a perpetual intermixture of vineyard and forest, of arable and meadow, of plain and mountain. This latter circumstance indeed particularly characterizes the Lago Maggiore, and distinguishes it from the others, which are enclosed in a perpetual and uninterrupted ridge of mountains; while here the chain is frequently broken by intervening plains and expansive valleys. This interruption not only enlivens its surface by admitting more light and sunshine, but apparently adds to its extent, by removing its boundaries, and at the same times gives a greater elevation to the mountains, by bringing them into contrast with the plains. Another circumstance, common indeed to all these lakes, contributes much to enliven their borders; it is, that all the villages, with their churches, are built of white stone, and have, particularly in

distant perspective and in high situations, a very splendid and palace-like appearance.

The bank nearest to the Isola Bella is formed of a bold swell covered with a forest, and intersected by several dells, which are the beds of mountain-torrents. The foliage of this forest was even at this season of a fresh and vivid green, and it harmonized admirably with the gleam of the waters below, and the deep azure of the firmament above. On the side of the island that faces this forest, a church with a few houses form a little village.

About half a mile westward from the Isola Bella is the Isola dei Pescatori (or of Fishermen) so called from the ordinary occupation of its inhabitants. It is nearly covered with houses, and with its church forms a pretty object in the general view, but has no claim to nearer inspection. Its population amounts to about one thousand.

The Isola Madre rises at the distance of a mile north from the Isola Bella. The southern part of this island is occupied by terraces; its northern side is covered with a wood; its summit is crowned with a villa. The terraces are formed on the slope of the hill, and may be considered almost as natural; the villa is spacious, but looks cold and uncomfortable. The wood is formed of laurel, cypress, and pine, and is the more beautiful for being neglected. This island

is indeed, in the whole, less disfigured by ill-directed art, and for that reason more picturesque, and more likely to please English travellers, than the Isola Bella, notwithstanding the more flattering appellation of the latter.

About three miles from Isola Madre, up the bay of Magotzo, and lying full west, lies the town of Magotzo.

The little town of Magotzo is situated on the western extremity of a lake which is nearly oval, three miles in length, in breadth one and a half, bordered on the south and north by hills, bold but not too steep, wild, yet finely wooded. It is separated from the Lago Maggiore by a plain of luxuriant verdure, divided by rows of poplars into numberless meadows, and intersected by a narrow stream winding along the road side, and navigable only when swelled by abundant rains. This streamlet forms a communication between the two lakes.

In this neighbourhood is situated Domo d'Ossola; the approach lies through one of the most delightful valleys that perhaps alpine solitudes enclose, or the foot of the traveller ever traversed. It is from two to seven miles wide, encompassed by mountains, generally of a craggy and menacing aspect, but not unfrequently softened by verdure, wood, and cultivation. It is closed at one end by the towering summit of the Simplon, whitened with everlasting snows. Through the middle of the valley ineanders

a river called Tosa, wide and smooth, narrow and rough, alternately. The road sometimes crosses meadows, sometimes borders the stream, shaded by the poplar, the lime, and the weeping birch : here it winds up the mountains, and edges the brink of the precipice, and there intersects groves and vineyards, passing under vines which are carried over it on trellis-work, and interwoven into arbours of immense length and impenetrable foliage.

The town and lake of Como, so famous as a residence of her Majesty during part of her stay in Italy, next claims attention. It lies about twenty-six miles distant from Milan. Como is like most of the towns between the Alps and the Appenines, of great antiquity, and, like them, also owes its origin to a Gallic tribe, and its importance to Roman colonization. For the latter benefit it was indebted partly to the father of Pompey, and partly to Julius Cæser. It has never fallen to its lot to make a figure in the world, nor indeed to attract the attention of the historian, either by its glories or by its reverses ; and it seems to have derived from its humble mediocrity a greater degree of security and quiet in the numberless disasters of Italy, than any of the more powerful and more illustrious cities can boast of. Its principal advantage is its situation, and its greatest glory is the reputation of one of its antient denizens, Pliny the younger. Its situation is of the most beautiful description.

On the southern extremity of the lake it commands a fine prospect of that noble expanse of water, with its bold and varied borders. It is covered behind, and on each side, with fertile hills. It is an episcopal town of some extent, and altogether of most pleasing appearance. The cathedral is of white marble and of a mixed architecture: the front is of light and not inelegant Gothic; the nave is supported by Gothic arches, the choir and transepts are adorned with composite pillars; and a dome rises above the centre. The effect of the whole, though the mixture is architecturally incorrect, is not unpleasant. In the front of the cathedral, there is a statue of Pliny, with basso relievos alluding to his writings; and on each side of the grand entrance is an inscription in his honour. A writer so much attached to his country, and so fond of fame as Pliny seems to have been, may be supposed to look down with complacency on the honours thus zealously paid in his beloved Como; and certainly these honours are justly due, not to his reputation only, but to his public spirit, as few citizens seem to have conferred so many solid benefits on their country as he did on Como: he established or contributed, both by his example and munificence, to the establishment of a school, with an able teacher at its head; he provided a fund for the support of free children; built a temple to contain the busts of the emperors, which he had presented to his fellow citizens; adorned a temple with a bronze statue of exquisite

workmanship; voluntarily resigned a legacy in favour of Como; and in short seized every occasion of manifesting his affection for the town and its inhabitants. Few characters, in truth, appear more accomplished and more amiable than that of Pliny the younger. Indefatigable both in the discharge of his duties and in the prosecution of his studies, frugal in the management and generous in the disposal of his fortune, gentle in the private intercourse of society, but firm and intrepid in his public capacity, grateful and affectionate as a husband and friend, just as a magistrate, and high-minded as a senator, he seems to have possessed the whole circle of virtues, and acted his part in all the relations of life with grace and with propriety. Nothing can be more pleasing than the account he gives of his domestic occupations; and few lessons are more instructive than the transcript which we find in his epistles, of his sentiments and feelings on every occasion where friendship, merit, virtue, and patriotism are interested.

Let us never lose sight of the elevated cast of mind, and the pure taste, which led Her Royal Highness to appreciate the dignity as well as the beauties of this spot. A place which possessed a double claim to her close attention; its intrinsic value as one of the most magnificent and charming spots to be found in Italy, and the degree of veneration which the inestimable character just described has conferred on it.

To those who best know Her Majesty, the selection of the Lake of Como as a place of residence appeared perfectly natural.

We may collect that at so remote a date as that of Pliny, Como was a rich flourishing city, adorned with temples, statues, porticos, and pillared gates, and encircled with large and splendid villas: that it was governed by decurions, inhabited by opulent citizens, and endowed with rich lands. In most of these respects modern Como does not perhaps yield to the ancient city. The cathedral, in materials, magnitude, and probably in decoration though not in style, equals the temple of Jupiter; and ten or fifteen other churches, four or five of which are remarkable for some peculiar excellence or other, may be deemed as ornamental to the city as half the number of temples. One of these churches, that of St. Giovanni, is adorned by several pillars which are supposed to have belonged to a portico which Pliny mentions as erected in his days. Three colleges of reputation, and as many public libraries, are modern advantages, which Pliny would have then extolled with rapture; and far superior, in usefulness it must be owned, even to his collection of imperial statues, or the temple erected for their reception. To complete the resemblance or the equality, Como is still governed by persons of birth and property, and contains a population of nearly twenty thousand souls.

The view of the lake from the town is confined

to a small bay that forms the harbour of Como ; but the view of the town from the lake, taken at the distance of a mile from the quay, is extremely beautiful. The expanse of water immediately under the eye, the boats gliding across it, and beyond it the town, with its towers and domes, situated at the foot of three conical hills, all of them green and wooded ; that in the middle is crowned with a crested castle, extending its rampart down the declivity, and on both sides bold eminences, chequered with groves and villas, form altogether a varied and most enchanting picture. On passing the little promontory that forms the harbour, there appears a fine sheet of water of seven miles, with the pretty little town of Carnobio, full before us, and on our left an opening between the hills, through which may be discovered Mount St. Bernard, covered with perpetual snows. The mountains on both sides rise to a great elevation, sometimes ascending abruptly from the lake itself, and sometimes swelling gradually from its borders, but always shaded with forests of firs and chesnuts, or clad with vines and olives. But whether steep or sloping, the declivities are enlivened by numberless villas, villages, convents, and towns, seated sometimes on the very verge of the water, sometimes perched on craggs and precipices ; in some places embosomed in groves, in others towering on the submits of the mountains. This mixture of solitude and of animation, of grandeur

and of beauty, joined with the brightness of the sky, the smoothness of the lake, and the warm beams of the sun playing upon its surface, give inexpressible interest to the scene, and excite delight and admiration in the highest degree.

The lake of Como retains its antient dimensions unaltered, and is fifty miles in length, from three to six in breadth, and from forty to six hundred feet in depth. Its form is serpentine, and its barks are indented with frequent creeks and harbours; it is subject to sudden squalls, and sometimes even when calm to swells, violent and unexpected, both of which are equally dangerous. The latter are more frequently experienced in that branch of the lake that terminates at Como, than in the other parts, because it has no outlet. The mountains that border the lake are by no means either barren or naked; their lower regions being generally covered with olives, vines, and orchards; the middle is encircled with groves of chesnut of great height and expansion, and the upper regions are either downs, or forests of pine and fir, with the exception of a few ridges of great elevation, which are necessarily either naked, or covered with eternal snow. Their sides are seldom formed of one continued steep, but usually interrupted by fields and levels, extending sometimes into wide plains, which supply abundant space for every kind of cultivation. These fertile plains are generally at one-third, and sometimes

at two-thirds of the total elevation. On or near these levels are most of the towns and villages that so beautifully diversify the sides of the mountains.

Cultivation is not, however, the only source of the riches of the territory of Como ; various mines of iron, lead, and copper, are now, as they were antiently, spread beneath its surface, and daily opened in the bowels of its mountains ; besides quarries of beautiful marble, which supply Milan and all the neighbouring cities with the materials and ornaments of their most magnificent churches. Nor are the borders of the lake destitute of literary establishments. Several convents and collegiate churches keep or patronize schools, and spread knowledge and civilization over the surface of a country apparently rugged and abandoned. Collegiate churches, especially where all the canons, without exception, are obliged to reside (as in the district of Milan, and indeed in all Catholic countries) nine months in the year, have always appeared to me of great utility in the country in general, and particularly in remote tracts and unfrequented provinces. The persons promoted to stalls in these establishments are generally such as have acquired reputation as authors, distinguished themselves in universities and colleges as professors, or rendered themselves serviceable as tutors in private education. To these we may add, that the decorations, both external and internal of these churches, and of

the buildings annexed to them, not only give employment almost constant to numerous artisans but moreover inspire and keep alive a taste for the fine arts; and to the number of such establishments, and to their splendid embellishments, we may perhaps ascribe that relish for music, painting, sculpture and architecture, and that nice discernment in these arts, so generally prevalent in Italy, and observable even in their peasants and labourers.

On doubling a verdant promontory on the right, and bending towards the eastern bank, we landed at a villa called Pliniana; it owes this appellation, as the reader will easily guess, to a famous intermitting fountain, minutely described by the younger Pliny. It is situated on the margin of the lake at the foot of the precipice, from which tumbles a cascade, amid groves of beeches, poplars, chesnuts, and cypresses. A serpentine walk leads through these groves, and discovers, at every winding, some new and beautiful view. The famous fountain bursts from the rock in a small court behind the house, and passing through under the story falls into the lake. Pliny's description of it is inscribed in large characters in the hall, and is still supposed to give an accurate account of the phænomenon. It is rather singular that the intervals of the rise and fall of this spring should be stated differently by the elder and the younger Pliny, both of

whom must have had frequent opportunities of observing it. The former represents it as increasing and decreasing every hour; the latter thrice a-day only. According to some modern observers, the ebb and flow are irregular; but the greater number, with the inhabitants of the house, assure us, that now, as in Pliny's time, it takes place usually thrice a-day; usually, because in very stormy and tempestuous weather the fountain is said to exhibit the influence of the disordered atmosphere, and to vary considerably in its motions.

Some writers have supposed that one of the villas which Pliny possessed in the neighbourhood of Como occupied this site; but though he had many in the vicinity of the lake, he yet describes only his two favourite retreats, and the situation of the Pliniana corresponds with neither. The one was, it seems, on the very verge of the lake, almost rising out of the waters, and in this respect resembled the Pliniana. The other villa might possibly have stood on the neighbouring promontory of Torno, whence it might have commanded two bays. There are indeed many situations on the banks of the lake which correspond with Pliny's descriptions, and, consequently, leave us at a loss to guess at the particular spots to which he alludes. A little farther on, the lake first contracts itself at Brienno, remarkable for its flourishing laurels,

and then expands again and makes a fine sweep, which forms the bay of Argegno, a busy little town and the mart of the neighbouring valleys.

The banks still continued to present the same bold and wood scenery, (as Pliny the elder expresses it) which is the constant characteristic feature of the lake and territory. As we advance, we pass some beautiful bays and promontories, with their villas and villages. Among these are Balbiano, Lenna, where, some years ago, a subterraneous temple was discovered with a marble statue of Diana, and on the margin of the lake, which took its name without doubt from the superior extent or magnificence of the mansion which formerly occupied the same spot, the remains of pillars are discernible, in calm weather, under the water close to the shore. Some antiquaries suppose this to be the real site of Pliny's villa: he could not indeed have chosen a more beautiful spot, nor, if we may believe the general opinion, a more genial climate. Hence its productions, such as aloes, capers, &c. seem to belong to a more southern sky, and surprise us by their blooming appearance under the snowy brows of the Alps.

This particular description of Como, and its singularly beautiful lake and scenery, as well as that of the lake Maggiore, although Her Royal Highness made no stay in that neighbourhood at this time, will yet be deemed of sufficient impor-

tance to the reader, inasmuch as, independent of the peculiar interest of the scenes described, it affords the key, and gives the character of Her Royal Highness's tastes, and her intentions from the time of her first arrival in Italy. From Como we proceeded to Milan, which is at the distance of about twenty-six British miles southward, over good roads. We arrived there after four hours pleasant travelling.

CHAPTER VIII.

Arrival at Milan.—General Account of that City. Its remarkable public Buildings and Establishments.—Remarkable Account of an exemplary and exalted Character, Saint Charles Borromeo. The Colleges and Hospitals of Milan.—General Character of its Inhabitants.—Her Majesty's Reception, and Society at Milan.

MILAN may be ranked among the few cities of Italy which have risen superior to the devastation of ages, wars, and revolutions, and brought down to modern times the greatest part, if not the whole, of their antient celebrity. This city may, during certain periods of her history, have enjoyed greater independence; but it may be doubted whether for any length of time she could ever boast of so exuberant a population, so wide a circumference, or such a durable peace and prosperity, as from the middle to the end of the last century. Many, we well know, are the blessings which accompany independence; but independence or exemption from a foreign influence, is only a partial advantage if it be not perfected by liberty. This is in a peculiar manner elucidated by the history of Milan, which, from its situation, the fertility of the surrounding country, and the mildness of the climate, soon reached a respectability of condition in this

respect, more difficult of attainment in less favoured countries.

Milan is a great and splendid city, near eleven miles in circumference, containing about one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. Its general appearance does not however correspond with its reputation; the streets are not always either wide, or regular, or well built; and it presents few edifices of magnificence or beauty sufficient to attract particular attention. Of these, the cathedral, without doubt, is the principal. It is situated almost in the centre of the city, and occupies part of the great square; it is of gothic architecture, and its materials are white marble. In magnitude this edifice yields to few in the universe. Inferior only to the Vatican of Rome, it equals in length and in breadth surpasses the cathedrals of Florence, and Saint Paul's; in the interior elevation it yields to both; but in its exterior it exceeds both; in its fretwork, carving, and statues, it goes beyond all churches in the world, Saint Peter's itself even not excepted. Its double aisles, its pillars, its lofty arches, the lustre of its walls, its numberless niches all filled with marble figures, give it an appearance, novel even in Italy, and singularly majestic. In the front of the chancel, and almost immediately above the steps, rises on four additional steps the altar, and behind it the choir in a semicircular form.

The pillars of the cathedral of Milan are more

than ninety feet in height, and about eight in diameter. The dimensions of the church at large are as follow : in length four hundred and ninety feet, in breadth two hundred and ninety-eight, in interior elevation under the dome two hundred and fifty-eight, and four hundred in exterior, that is, to the summit of the tower. The pavement is formed of marble of different colours, disposed in various patterns and figures. The number of niches is very great, and every niche has its statue, which, together with those placed on the ballustrade of the roof, are reported to amount to more than four thousand. Many among these are said to be of great merit.

Over the dome rises a tower or spire ; in ascending this, the traveller will observe that the roof of the church is covered with solid blocks of marble, which are connected together by a powerful cement, which possesses not only the durability and hardness, but the colour also of the marble itself ; so that the eye of the observer scarcely perceives the points and lines in which the joinings are made, and the whole roof appears to be composed of one immense piece or sheet of the finest white and polished marble. The singularity and uncommon splendour of this roof cannot perhaps be adequately described. The prospect of the surrounding country and objects from the summit of this tower is grand and very extensive ; it includes the whole city and the luxuriant plain of Milan ; shews its intersection in every part with

rivers and canals, its beautiful display of gardens, orchards, vineyards, and groves ; and its numerous and interesting villages and towns ; and extends to the neighbouring Alps, which unite their bleak ridges with the milder and more distant Apennines, and seem to compose a grand and natural frame to this picture of beauty and interest.

In its materials the cathedral of Milan certainly surpasses all the churches of the universe, the noblest of which are only lined and coated with marble, while this is entirely built, paved, vaulted, and roofed with the same substance, and that of the whitest and most resplendent kind.

The most remarkable object in the interior of this church, is the subterranean chapel, in which the body of Saint Charles Borromeo reposes. It is immediately under the dome, its form is octangular, and is lined with silver ; its exterior is divided into panels, representing the principal actions of the life of the saint. The body is deposited in a shrine of rock crystal, on, or rather behind, the altar ; it is stretched at full length, dressed in pontifical robes, with the crosier and mitre. The face is exposed, very improperly, because much disfigured by decay ; a deformity which is increased and rendered more hideous by its contrast with the splendour of the vestments which cover the body, and by the pale ghastly light that gleams from the aperture above. The inscription over this chapel or mausoleum was dictated by Saint Charles himself, and breathes

that modesty and piety which so peculiarly marked his character.

If ever a human being deserved such honours from his fellow creatures, it was Saint Charles Borromeo. Princely birth and fortune, the highest dignities, learning, talents, and accomplishments, qualities so apt to intoxicate the strongest mind, even in the soberness of mature, I might say, in the sullenness of declining, age, shone in him, even when a youth, without impairing that humility, simplicity of heart, disinterestedness and holiness, which constituted his real merit and formed his most honourable and permanent distinction. It was his destiny to render to his people those great and splendid services which excite public applause and gratitude, and to perform at the same time those humbler duties which, though perhaps more meritorious, are less conspicuous, and sometimes produce more obloquy than acknowledgement. Thus he founded schools, colleges, and hospitals, built parochial churches, most affectionately attended his flock during a destructive pestilence, erected a lazaretto, and served the forsaken victims with his own hands. These are uncommon duties; they are magnificent and heroic, and are followed by fame and glory. But to reform a clergy and people, depraved and almost barbarized by ages of war, invasion, internal dissention, and by their concomitant evils, famine, pestilence, and general misery; to extend his influence to every part of an immense diocese, including some of the

wildest regions of the Alps, to visit every village in person, and inspect and correct every disorder, are offices of little pomp and of great difficulty. Yet this laborious part of his pastoral charge he went through with the courage and the perseverance of an apostle ; and so great was his success, that the diocese of Milan, the most extensive perhaps in Italy, as it contains at least eight hundred and fifty parishes, became a model of decency, order, and regularity, and in this respect has excited the admiration of every impartial observer. The good effects of the zeal of St. Charles extended far beyond the limits of his diocese ; and most of his regulations for the reformation of his clergy, such as the establishment of seminaries, yearly retreats, &c. were adopted by the Gallican church, and extended over France and Germany.

Many of his excellent institutions still remain, and among others that of Sunday schools ; and it is both novel and affecting to behold on that day, the vast area of the cathedral filled with children, forming two grand divisions of boys and girls ranged opposite each other, and these again subdivided into classes, according to their age and capacities, drawn up between the pillars, while two or more instructors attend each class, and direct their questions and explanations to every individual without distinction. A clergyman attends each class, accompanied by one or more laymen for the boys, and for the girls by as many matrons. The lay assistants are said to be oftentimes per-

sonages of the first distinction. Tables are placed in different recesses, for writing. This admirable practice, so beneficial and so edifying, is not confined to the cathedral or even to Milan. The pious archbishop extended it to every part of his immense diocese, and it is observed in all the parochial churches of the Milanese, and of the neighbouring dioceses, of such at least as are suffragans of Milan.

The private virtues of St. Charles, his humility, self-command, temperance, industry, prudence, and fortitude, were not inferior to his public endowments. His table was for his guests; his own diet was confined to bread and vegetables; he allowed himself no amusement or relaxation, alleging that the variety of his duties was in itself a sufficient recreation. His dress and establishment was such as became his rank, but in private he dispensed with the attendance of servants, and wore an under-dress coarse and common; his bed was of straw; his repose short; and in all the details of life, he manifested an utter contempt of personal ease and indulgence.

The immense charities of St. Charles exceed the income and magnificence even of sovereigns. In every city in which he had at any time resided, he left some monument of useful munificence, a school, a fountain, an hospital, or a college. Ten of the latter establishments, five of the preceding, and the former without number, still remain at Pavia, Bologna, Milan, and in all the towns of its

diocese. Besides these public foundations, he bestowed annually the sum of thirty thousand crowns on the poor, and added to it, in various cases of public distress during his life, the sum of two hundred thousand crowns more, not including numberless extra benefactions conferred upon individuals, whose situation claimed peculiar and perhaps secret relief. The funds which supplied these boundless charities were derived partly from his own estates, and partly from his archiepiscopal revenue. The former, as he had no expensive tastes or habits to indulge, were devoted entirely to beneficence; the latter he divided, according to the ancient custom, into three parts; one of which was appropriated to the building and reparation of churches, and edifices connected with them; the second was allotted to the poor, and the third employed in the domestic expenditure of the bishop. But of the whole income, the humble and disinterested prelate ordered an account to be submitted annually to the diocesan synod.

It is not wonderful that such virtues should have engaged most powerfully the affection of his flock during his life, and that after his death they should be recollected with gratitude and veneration.

To the English reader, this most excellent and exemplary conduct may appear extraordinary, and this most unhappily, from the comparison which he will be obliged, however reluctantly, to draw between the labours and virtues of this worthy prelate, and the general conduct of his own clergy.

He will not perhaps be aware, that in the early ages of Christianity, the endowment of the clergy was upon the express condition of the due performance of such attentions and such hospitalities, to the amount of a large and fixed proportion of the sum so granted to its care ; and that this state of things actually remained in practice, until the confiscations which took place among other disgraceful acts of Henry the Eighth.

To contemplate the scenes of St. Charles's exertions, and observe the strange coincidences above alluded to, will be allowed to be perfectly natural to her Royal Highness, and to all those who had the happiness and advantage to be near her, and who were acquainted with the real causes of her sufferings and sorrows.

To return to the cathedral : Of the statues crowded in and around the edifice, I have already observed, that many are highly esteemed, and some much admired. Of the latter, that of St. Bartholomew is the first, which stands in the church, and represents the apostle as holding his own skin, which had been drawn off like drapery over his shoulders. The play of the muscles is represented with an accuracy that rather terrifies than pleases the spectator. The sculptor may have just reason to compare himself, as the inscription implies, to Praxiteles ; but his masterpiece is certainly better calculated for a school of anatomy, than for the embellishment of a church. The exterior of the chancel is lined with

marble, divided into panels, each of which has its basso relievo ; the interior is wainscoted, and carved in a very masterly manner. The whole of the chancel was erected by St. Charles Borromeo : two large pulpits stand on each side of the entrance ; that on the right, appropriated to the reading of the gospel, rests upon four bronze figures, representing the four mysterious animals of Ezekiel ; that on the left is supported by the four doctors of the Latin church, in the same metal.

But it is not my intention to enumerate all the ornaments of this church, but merely to enable the reader to form a general idea of its magnitude and decorations.

From these edifices, therefore, we pass to the Ambrosian library, an establishment which owes its existence entirely to the munificence of Cardinal Federigo Borromeo, nephew of the Saint, and his successor in the See of Milan. This prelate, who seems to have inherited the virtues, if not the talents of his uncle, began to collect books when a student at Rome, and enlarging his plan as he advanced in age and dignities, at length, when raised to the archbishopric, erected an edifice, placed his collection in it, and opened it to the public under the title of *Bibliotheca Ambrosiana*. It contains about forty thousand volumes, and more, it is said, than fifteen thousand manuscripts. There is also annexed to this library a gallery of pictures, statues, antiques,

and medals, which formerly contained many articles of great variety and reputation. The ceiling is adorned with paintings, and the space between the bookcases and the cornice filled up by the portraits of the most eminent authors, whose writings are deposited below.

It is well known that one of the most valuable articles in this library was a manuscript collection of various works of Leonardo da Vinci, accompanied with drawings, designs, &c. which had been presented to it by a citizen of the name of Galeas Arconati, who generously refused vast sums offered for this precious deposit; and, to secure its possession to his country, consigned it to the Ambrosian library, as to an inviolable sanctuary. The reputation of Da Vinci, whose genius ranged over all the sciences at pleasure, and shone with equal lustre in poetry, painting, architecture, and philosophy, gave these volumes, of sufficient importance in themselves, an inestimable value in the eyes of his countrymen, who accordingly, with the enthusiasm for the arts which distinguishes the modern Italians, as honourably as it did the ancient Greeks, erected a marble statue to the donor, and enregistered his name among the public benefactors of the city.

In the refectory, or hall of the convent of the Dominicans, was, as is well known, the celebrated picture of the Last Supper, of the same painter, and supposed to be his masterpiece.

During the invasion of the country by the

French, the convent was suppressed, the hall turned into a store-room of artillery, and the picture served as a target for the soldiers to fire at. The heads of the figures were their favourite marks, and that of our Saviour in preference to the others. Their impiety, though wanton, and to them unprofitable, was impotent, and may be passed over with contemptuous abhorrence; but their barbarism in defacing a masterpiece, which, though in decay, was still a model in the art, succeeded to the full extent even of their mischievous wishes, and has erased for ever one of the noblest specimens of painting in the world. It may be doubted whether the annals of war record any such violent and unnecessary outrage.

In colleges, hospitals, and establishments of charity in general, Milan was always most splendidly endowed, owing in a great degree to the princely munificence of St. Charles. Of the former, the college of Brera, once belonging to the Jesuits, is the principal; it contained twelve hundred students, besides professors, masters, and teachers; it is of vast extent, and considerable magnificence.

The seminary, and the Helvetic college, particularly the latter, are adorned in the same manner with courts and porticos, and furnished with noble halls and libraries.

The hospital Maggiore is an immense edifice; its principal court, for it has several; is more

than three hundred feet square; it is lined with a double portico, supported by columns of granite: the lower order is Ionic, the upper Composite: it contains more than twelve hundred persons, and has halls appropriated to different trades, and to working convalescents.

The Lazaretto is a spacious quadrangle of twelve hundred and fifty feet in length, and twelve hundred in breadth. It contains about three hundred rooms, with fire-places; is surrounded by a stream, and admirably adapted for the residence of epidemical patients, by its airiness and cleanness. In the centre of the court stands a chapel, so contrived, that the priest at the altar may be seen by the sick in their beds. The pillars that support the portico are slender, and distant from each other; yet the solidity, uniformity, and immensity of this edifice, give it a grand and very striking appearance. It has in modern times been used as barracks.

Shortly after our arrival at Milan, Her Royal Highness determined to discharge one of her couriers, although he remained in the suite until our arrival at Florence. Sir William Gell received Her Royal Highness's directions to engage a person of character as courier, to fill the place of him about to be discharged. Sir William in his enquiries found a gentleman of suitable manners and appearance, M. Bergami, who was recommended in the strongest manner by the Marquis Guisillieri, the Austrian Grand Cham-

berlain. M. Bergami was represented by the Marquis to be descended from a family of great respectability, but who had lost a fortune during the French revolution. He was recommended to Her Royal Highness's service in the strongest manner, and in the confidence that his fidelity and propriety of conduct would ensure him Her Royal Highness's protection, and a promotion of office; being in all respects a perfectly honourable, honest, and trust-worthy person. The peculiarly striking manner and appearance of this gentleman, who was now to fill the important post of chief courier to Her Royal Highness, and who came under such high and unusual circumstances of recommendation, would naturally excite our attention; but the gross misrepresentations which have since gone abroad respecting M. Bergami, render a more particular account of his circumstances essential to the thread of our narrative.

It is therefore necessary to furnish the reader with such particulars as can be relied on, respecting the family and connexions of the individual who has become so conspicuous a character in these Travels.

On the first introduction of this gentleman into the household of Her Majesty, he held the situation of cabinet courier, an officer entrusted with dispatches of great importance, and a person always entitled to particular confidence. He was a man acquainted with different languages,

well and long accustomed to travel, of military habits, and deemed, by those with whom he was acquainted, to possess extensive information; added to this, he was of a most respectable family, which, by unforeseen and unfortunate circumstances, had been reduced from a state of opulence.

Of M. Bergami's three sisters, the first was married to Count Oldi; the second to M. Servergrini, of an ancient family at Cremona; and the third to M. Martini de Lodi, brother of the ex-secretary general of the captaincy of Padua, when it was commanded by his excellency the Baron de Goez. M. Bergami, the eldest son, aspiring above his bad fortune, and recollecting the past honourable condition of his family, embraced a military life, and was attached to the *etat-major* of the troops commanded by his excellency the general Count Pino, in several arduous campaigns.

Her Majesty was not long in discovering in M. Bergami an intelligence above the situation in which he was placed; and as the reward of his faithful services, she gradually raised him to the rank of her first equerry, and from that situation, to that of her chamberlain. She was acquainted with the misfortunes of his family, and long experience increased her confidence in his integrity. She became particularly interested in his favour, procured for him a title of barony in Sicily, decorated him with several orders of knighthood, and took every proper opportunity

to mark her sense of the repeated proofs which he continually afforded of his attachment to her person and interests during her extensive and arduous tour. On her return to Italy too, she placed two of the brothers of M. Bergami, and also his sister, into her service. M. Louis Bergami presided over her household; and M. Vol-lotti Bergami, who was formerly under-prefect at Cremona, was made the comptroller of her disbursements. Such is the real state of the facts with regard to this highly respectable man. M. Bergami from that time continued in Her Majesty's service to the time of her departure from France for England. He travelled with Her Majesty from Pesaro, leaving his wife and sisters at that place, but bringing with him his daughter, a beautiful and amiable child, then seven years of age, whom Her Majesty, in her accustomed partiality and kindness to children, had adopted, and to whom she was more attached, from its extraordinary acquirements and progress in polite learning at so early an age. This interesting little *protégé* of her Majesty, was at this tender age a perfect mistress of the French and Italian languages, and possessed no inconsiderable skill in music and the other fashionable accomplishments. So strong, however, was her natural attachment to her parent, that she could not be prevailed on to accompany Her Majesty to England, but returned with her father to Pesaro in Italy.

In person, M. Bergami is a man of about five feet eleven inches in height, of a decided and military aspect, large mustachios and whiskers, dark complexion and eyes, a bold but agreeable countenance, of robust form, and altogether of most prepossessing and gentlemanly appearance.

The consideration in which M. Bergami was held by persons of the highest rank and consequence, may be gathered from a circumstance which, though of no extraordinary importance of itself, as taking place in Italy, where the occurrence is frequent, and indeed common and universal, will yet seem particularly striking, and singular, to an English reader unacquainted with the manners and customs of Italy. A short time before we left Milan, the Marquis Guisillieri, dressed in his full Austrian uniform of state as grand chamberlain, with his deputy chamberlain, and other of his officers in attendance upon him, happened to meet Her Royal Highness and suite in the public streets; his Excellency, after paying his respects to Her Royal Highness, observing M. Bergami, who was then in attendance, he in the presence of his officers, and the crowd of persons assembled to observe the ceremony of the meeting, embraced M. Bergami, kissing each of his cheeks, which is the customary mode of salutation in Italy among persons of rank, and who are in general consideration esteemed equals. This open and undisguised proof of the estimation in which this gentleman was held by persons of

the highest consequence in the country, and who possessed the fullest possible opportunities of knowing thoroughly his character and real worth, speaks volumes, and ought, in common sense, to silence for ever the slightest breath of calumny or evil report respecting him.

Her Majesty's selection of M. Bergami, for the high and confidential employment he filled in her establishment, was not only in the first instance fully and incontrovertibly justified by the unequivocal recommendations with which he came introduced to her, by persons of the very first rank and consequence, but ultimately by the arduous and important services which were afterwards required of him, in Her Majesty's perilous and extraordinary mode of travelling, and which, however adventurous to a common observer, was yet not more than necessary to the due prosecution of the enquiry and research her active and enlightened mind had fixed upon. It should here be observed, that in many instances during Her Majesty's various tours, there were occasions of danger, in which insult, robbery, and even the loss of life or liberty might not unreasonably be expected, and in which the presence and assistance of an able man, in whom could be reposed the most unlimited confidence, would become absolutely necessary to personal safety, and consequently to that equal state of mind, which is naturally required as well to insure health as to secure the objects of the research. In such

situations it will be readily understood and acknowledged, that such a confidential servant should be a man of great, of tried, and of unquestionable personal bravery, one who enjoys so decided a reputation in those matters, as to command respect among others by his presence; he should be a man of military habits, and of military talent, able alike to provide resources against every possible exigency, to avoid danger with prudence and circumspection while it threatens, or face it with intrepidity when it arrives: to these qualifications should be added, the education, the habits of mind, and the manners, of a polished gentleman; one intimately acquainted with the ceremonials of the highest circles of life, and well accustomed to their intercourse; a striking superiority of personal appearance is not a little important, inasmuch as it is evidently necessary, to a certain degree, to give a finish, to embody, and give efficiency to the other qualifications. That Her Majesty found these recommendations in M. Bergami, may safely be inferred by the unquestionable and highly respectable manner in which he came introduced to her, and that he filled the various duties of the stations assigned him in the service of Her Majesty with fidelity and strict propriety, will not be doubted for a moment, when the reader has gone through the relation of the various circumstances of interest, of difficulty, and of danger, with which Her Majesty's excur-

sions will appear to have been constantly accompanied. Indeed the public discussions on the subject have so satisfactorily explained Her Majesty's reasons, and the necessity for the services of M. Bergami, as well as the effectual manner and the strict propriety with which he discharged his duties, that calumny itself is dumb on that subject; and it has been judged necessary to enlarge upon it, in this stage of Her Majesty's progress, that the reader may follow the relation of the adventures of the travels in which the services of this distinguished individual were so constantly and importantly employed, without prejudice, and, with a fair and dispassionate view of Her Majesty's plans and intentions, be thoroughly satisfied that in every determination and arrangement there existed a strict necessity, and that in the adjustment and prosecution of every design the nicest sense and observance, of propriety.

CHAPTER IX.

Departure from Milan for Naples, by way of Florence and Rome.—Description of the approach to Florence.—Its situation and surrounding Scenery.—Description of the City.—The Cathedral.—Delightful Excursions in the Vicinity of the City.—A singular Burning Mountain.—Beauty of Florence.—Manners of the Florentines.—Climate, &c.—Lucca.—Interesting Account of its advantageous Circumstances.

IT being, from the first entrance into Italy, Her Majesty's intention, from the advanced state of the season, to proceed to Naples by the way of Florence and Rome, our stay at Milan was necessarily short; but although circumscribed as to time, it was continually enlivened with the society of the persons of rank and fashion resident in the place, and the high civic authorities, all of whom paid the most sedulous attention to Her Majesty, and vied with each other in their endeavours to shew the respect in which they held her, and to promote the objects of her visit to Italy. After about three weeks' stay, and having completed several minor arrangements, as well respecting the mode of conducting our journey to Rome, and next from thence to Naples, which Her Majesty intended to make her first point of final residence, as to secure proper

accommodation on our arrival there, we set out accompanied by Her Majesty's full suite, for Florence ; taking the route, by easy journeys, of Lodi and Pavia, thence to Placentia and to Parma, by Lucca to Florence. The greater part of these places being barren of interest to a reader, and not having been the scene of any particular transaction in our journey, I shall pass over them without detaining the reader with any detail respecting them, and proceed to the description of Florence and Lucca, the first places of note on the route.

FLORENCE is seated in a vale, intersected by the river Arno, graced by numberless hills, and bordered, at no great distance, by mountains of various forms rising gradually towards the Appennines. The whole vale is one continued grove and garden, where the beauty of the country is enlivened by the animation of the town, and the fertility of the soil is redoubled by the industry of its cultivators. White villas gleam through the extensive orchards on every side, and large populous hamlets border the roads, and almost line the banks of the river. Such is the scene of comfort and prosperity that surrounds the Tuscan capital, raised originally by the genius of liberty, and restored by the grand duke Leopold.

The cathedral, with its adjoining baptistery, Saint Lorenzo, and the mausoleum of the Medicæan family, Santa Maria Novella, and Santa Croce, are the most conspicuous edifices in

Florence, and have each some peculiarity that claims attention.

The cathedral, called as usual in Italy *Il Duomo*, is an edifice of great extent and magnificence, and ranks among the first of the kind in Europe. It is in fact, if we consider magnitude and materials, boldness and skill, the second, and in most respects inferior only to the unrivalled Vatican of Rome. Its walls are incrustated, or rather cased, with black and white marble; it is paved with variegated marble, disposed, at least in part, by Michael Angelo himself; it is adorned both within and without by marble statues, most of which are works of most eminent sculptors; and its paintings are in general master-pieces of the art. But its principal distinction and greatest glory is its dome, prior to that of St. Peter's in time, and little inferior to it in magnitude. It has the advantage of the latter in date, and is represented by the Florentines as having been its model.

The churches of Florence possess one charm in a manner peculiar to themselves, and that is an intimate connexion with the memory of the great men who flourished in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and who from Florence diffused the light of literature and the arts over the western world. There are in fact few churches in this city which are not ennobled by the tombs of some or other of these personages; scarce one that does not present to the eyes of the traveller.

when he enters, inscribed on marble or bronze, some illustrious and well known name.

Speaking of Florence, on the whole it may be fairly termed a delightful city, not only from its beautiful situation, but also by its cleanliness, splendid edifices, its cheerful river, and brilliant streets. The interior of the houses are also, for the most part, clean, elegant, and comfortable. The people are laborious, lively, witty, well made, and have a peculiar charm in their language.

There is an abundance and a variety of fruit, vegetables, meat and fish here, which leaves nothing to desire, and particularly from their style of cooking being excellent. The coffee-houses are well managed, providing excellent chocolate in the morning, refreshing beverages during the day, and in the evening, when they are splendidly lighted up, and even visited by well dressed ladies, *orgates* and ices. The *Hetrurian* wines are also excellent. The autumn is the most delightful season of this happy country. Then the air is so mild and clear, so soft and balsamic, and breathes so delightfully through the ever-green oaks and laurel, that every breath fills the inhabitants with new vigour. The evenings are heavenly; long after the sun has set, a stream of light covers the firmament, and vanishes late under the sparkling stars. Then songs and the sound of the guitar are heard, humming through the silence of the night, which covers, under its trusty veil, the ad-

ventures of emboldened love. The lively streets are crowded with happy people, and are brightened by the numerous lights in the shops, coffee-houses, and before the holy images. The autumn too is the happy time of the *Villeggiatur*, which only finishes towards Christmas.

The winter seldom lasts very long. The day of Simon and Jude is the grand day for chesnuts, which are then selling in every street, piled up in large bags. Rich and poor eat them on that day, boiled with fennel.

On bright cold days, which sometimes happen in November, the inhabitants call the weather *freschetto*, and remain dressed as if it were in July. The peasants then put on their cloaks, the colour and picturesque folds of which often give them a fantastic appearance. The *beau-monde*, that on Sundays generally walk under the *Loggiato degli Uffizi*, now prefer walking under the rays of the sun, near the river. Among the ladies we could not perceive any absolute beauties, but yet a great deal of grace; burning eyes under dark locks, tenderness and fulness of shape, and loveliness of figure, were not rare among them. But youth fades here quicker than in the north, and wrinkles and all the concomitants of old age appear very soon. The voices, too, of the women are here rather too deep and manly. For the rest, they are witty, cheerful, lively, easy in conversation, full of feeling, and of lively imagination. The husbands are by no means jea-

lous, and their wives, therefore, put themselves under very little restraint. Yet this is not the consequence of coldness and indifference, for most couples seem to live in concord and mutual satisfaction, and the name of Cicisbeo is scarcely known. Superior information is seldom to be met with among the women, but in their amiable ignorance, they are without any pretensions. In their hearts, God, a few saints, their husbands, their children, with the rest of their family, together with their love of dress, and the theatre, and other worldly trifles, dwell peaceably together, and completely occupy them; their minds are not tormented by any roving curiosity; they know that the world beyond the mountains is inhabited by some curious nations, among the number of which are the Germans, drinking beer and smoking pipes. But, nevertheless, women of a truly learned education are yet to be met with. The art of poetry is more common among them. The talent of many is only known to their domestic circle; but the reputation of many has gone abroad, and among those of the present day, Fantastici and Mazzei, two Florentine ladies, are deservedly distinguished.

From the city we pass to the neighbouring country, which presents as great a portion of rural beauty, hill and dale, orchard and vineyard, cottage and villa, as the environs of any of the most favoured capitals in Europe, Naples alone perhaps excepted. Its first feature is the Arno, a

river like the Tiber, inferior certainly to many streams in magnitude, but superior to most in renown.

The most delightful excursion in the neighbourhood of Florence is, without doubt, the abbey of Vallombrosa, a name well known to every British reader, because ennobled by Milton, in his "Paradise Lost." The road to this famed retreat runs for thirteen miles through the vale of Arno, along the banks of the river.

A little beyond the town of Pelago begins the ascent of the Apennines, and, winding along their sides, may be enjoyed as you advance, many delicious views of hills crowned with villas, and mountains sometimes covered, and sometimes merely spotted, with the olive, the vine, and the ilex. The beauty of the scenery increases at every step, and as you pass through the groves of lofty chesnuts intermingled with oak, there may be occasionally caught the view of a torrent tumbling from the craggs, a church seated on the bosom of a fertile hill, or a broken ridge of rocks and precipices.

At a little distance from the abbey may be observed a large stone cross, placed at the entrance of a wood of firs, thick and lofty, whose deep shade is lighted up by the horizontal rays of the setting sun, that shoot along the arcades formed by their meeting branches. As we entered, the abbey bell tolled to call the monks to the evening service, and continued

tolling till we emerged from the gloom of this path to a little plain, bounded behind by a semi-circular curve of steep mountains, covered to the summit with one continuous forest. Here we beheld the antique towers and pinnacles of the abbey rising full before us; and on a nearer approach heard the swell of the organ, and the voices of the choir, and, instantly alighting under the archway of the gate, hastened to the church. The monks were then singing the *Qui habitat* (ninety-first psalm,) which is part of the evening service. The melody was sweet—and solemn; a long pause between each verse gave it time to produce its full effect upon the auditor; and the gloom of the church, the lights on the altar, the chant of the choir, and the tones of the organ, could not fail to awaken in the mind already prepared by the scenery, and circumstances of place and time, a strong emotion of piety, awe and melancholy. When service was ended, the monks retired in deep silence, like so many ghosts gliding along the nave, and disappearing in the aisles: we withdrew with regret. We were then conducted, by the father appointed to receive strangers, to the usual apartments allotted to visitants, and treated with unaffected hospitality. These apartments are fitted up in a style of cleanliness and simplicity admirably adapted to the spirit of the place, and of the order. The walls are merely white-washed, without either paper, wainscot, or tapestry. Their only de-

corations are a few prints of subjects taken from scripture, or connected with the history of the order, or the life of the founder. The furniture consists of a very good bed, a table, a desk for prayer, with a crucifix, and a few chairs, all very plain, but very neat, and evidently designed not for luxury, but convenience.

Another pleasant and curious excursion from Florence is to Pietra Mala, a mountain that rises in the middle of the Apennines, on the road to Bologna, about forty miles from Florence. This mountain is rendered remarkable by a flame that spreads over a small part of its surface, and burns almost continually, without producing any of those destructive effects which accompany volcanic explosions.

The flame appears on the side of a mountain, about four miles from Covigliaio, and the road or path thither is rugged enough. The spot where the phenomenon shews itself is on the declivity, and rather low down; the flame covered a space of about one hundred and forty feet, run along in crevices, and burnt much stronger in some places than in others. Its colour was either bright yellow or blue, like spirits of wine, and it rose little more than half a foot from the surface; but in rainy weather, and particularly in winter, it is said to increase considerably, and mount to the height of six or seven feet. We extinguished it in some places by waving our hats strongly over it, and reproduced it by firing

a pistol into a small train of gunpowder, and sometimes by merely throwing a lighted paper on the spot where it had disappeared. It emits a strong odour similar to that of æther.

The city of LUCCA is situated about twenty-five miles northward of Florence. This city is one of the most ancient in Italy; indeed the era of its foundation, and the name of the founder, are equally unknown. It was colonized by the Romans about one hundred and seventy years before the birth of Christ, and from that period began to rise in importance and in celebrity. The most remarkable event however that distinguished it in ancient times, was the interview which took place here between Cæsar, Pompey, and Crassus; an interview which attracted half the senate and nobility of Rome, and for a time gave to a provincial town the pomp and splendour of the capital.

From the fall of the empire, or rather from the destruction of the kingdom of the Goths, Lucca seems to have been governed by princes of its own, and it is from one of these princes or dukes, Adalberto il Ricco, who reigned in the beginning of the tenth century, that the Royal Family of England is supposed to have derived its origin.

The magnanimous Countess Matilda, who made so conspicuous a figure in Italy during the eleventh century, and rendered the Roman see such important services, was born princess of Lucca. From the death of this Princess, which

took place in the beginning of the twelfth century, Lucca has enjoyed, with the exception of a few intervals of domestic usurpation, the honours of independence, and the advantages of a republican government. These advantages are sufficiently conspicuous, in the first place, in the cleanliness of the streets, and in the excellent police established in the city; in the industry of the inhabitants, and in the high cultivation of the country; in the general security and confidence that reign, not in the town only, but in the villages and recesses of the mountains; and, in fine, in the extraordinary population of the territory, and in the ease and opulence of its inhabitants.

One advantage the inhabitants of Lucca enjoy peculiar to themselves, an advantage, which though highly desirable, was seldom attained by the ancient commonwealths, whether Greek or Roman; the cordial and uninterrupted union of the people and their governors. Public good seems at Lucca to be the prime, the only object of government, without the least indirect glance at either private interest or even corporate distinction. With motives so pure, and conduct so disinterested, the nobles are justly considered as the fathers of the republic, and looked up to with sentiments of gratitude and of reverence. One of the grand features of true republican liberty, the constant and perpetual predominance of the law, is here peculiarly visible. It protects all, without distinction; and deprives all alike of the power of

attack or annoyance ; hence the noble as well as the plebian is disarmed, and, like the Romans of old, obliged to look not to his sword but to the law for defence and redress ; the least deviation from justice meets with prompt and rigorous punishment. At Lucca, as in England, rank confers no protection ; it only renders the offence and the punishment more notorious. Hence, though the people have much of the courage, perhaps of the fierceness of liberty, yet crimes and even deeds of violence are rare ; and the quarrels and murders that so often occur in other cities of Italy, are here absolutely unknown ; a circumstance that proves, if proofs were wanting, that the modern Italians owe their vices in the greatest degree to the negligence, the folly, and sometimes perhaps to the wickedness of their governments. Another vice with which the Italians are reproached, but (in the opinion of all unprejudiced persons who have travelled in the country, and contemplated its inhabitants and manners with a scrutinizing and liberal mind,) certainly unjustly, is idleness ; but even idleness and its concomitant—beggary, seem to be banished from the city and territory of Lucca. None, even among the nobles, appear exorbitantly rich ; but, on the other hand, none seem oppressed with poverty. The taxes of the state are light in amount, and few in number ; the necessities of life are attainable with ease and comfort by the lowest class ; and competency seems to be,

and practically is, within the reach of every individual.

The territory of Lucca is about forty-three English miles in length, and sixteen in breadth; of this territory about two-thirds are comprised in the mountains and defiles, the remainder forms the delicious plain immediately round the city. Now this little territory contains a population of about one hundred and forty-thousand souls, a population far surpassing that of double the same extent in the neighbouring provinces, though under the same climate, and blest with the same and indeed superior fertility. This difference, so honourable to Lucca, is the result, and, at the same time, the eulogium of republican governments.

The city of Lucca itself is three miles in circumference, surrounded by a rampart, most beautifully planted all round, and converted into a spacious and delightful walk and drive, affording ample room for carriages; similar but superior in that respect to the ramparts of Douay and Cambray, and other fortresses in French and Austrian Flanders. These walls, thus covered with lofty trees, conceal the city, and give it at a distance the appearance of a forest, with the tower of the cathedral like an abbey rising in the centre. The town is well built, but no edifice in particular can be considered as remarkable. The cathedral was erected in the eleventh century, and possesses no inconsiderable share of

beauty. The exterior is cased with marble, and ornamented with rows of small arches. In the inside the buttresses, which form the arcades of the nave, are heavy, but they support a second range of arcades, consisting of pointed arches, light and airy in themselves, and ornamented with fretwork of admirable grace and beauty.

The immediate vicinity of Lucca, is a level and smooth plain, but as well planted, cultivated, and embellished as incessant industry can make it; the remaining part, that is, the principal portion of the republican territory, is mountainous, and the traveller has the opportunity of observing its scenery on his way to the celebrated baths of Lucca. These baths are about fourteen miles from the city, in a north-westerly direction, in the windings of the Apennines. The road leading to them, after travelling the plain of Lucca, watered by the river Serchio, still continues to follow the winding bank of that stream, and enters the defile through which the river descends from the mountains at the Ponte Amariano. This bridge and two others higher up are of a very singular form, consisting of two very lofty arches, very narrow, and extremely steep, with a descent in the middle between the arches; they are calculated only for foot passengers and mules. The precise era of their construction has not yet been ascertained. Some suppose that they were erected in the sixth century; others, with perhaps more propability, assign them to

the eleventh, and to the Countess Matilda. Their grotesque appearance harmonizes with the romantic scenery that surrounds them: banks, lined with the finest poplars; bold hills, covered with woods, churches, and villas glittering through groves of cypress. From hence the defile continues without interruption to the baths, while the bordering mountains in some places advance in the view, in others recede, increasing however in elevation, without any diminution of their verdure and foliage.

The village of Dei Bagni stands in the bottom of a valley, on the banks of the river Serchio; the baths themselves with the lodging houses round them, are situated on the declivity of the hill. The view from thence extends over the dell, deep, broken, and shagged with trees of romantic appearance and character; the torrent rolling over the rocky bottom; the circumjacent hills richly clad in forests of chesnut; at a greater distance, and surmounting the entire prospect, the pyramidal summit of the cloud-capped Apennines. The baths are indeed in the very heart of these mountains, but surrounded rather with the beautiful than the grand features of their scenery.

The road from Lucca is good, but on the sides of the hills in some places too narrow, and inconveniently near to the edge of the precipice.

CHAPTER X.

Florence.—Traverse the Maremme, or Region of the Malaria.—Vale of Arno.—Interesting Account of its Agriculture.—Volterra.—Its melancholly Decline.—Present Condition.—Converted into a grazing Country.—Terni.—Interesting Account of its famous Cascade.—Nera.—The ancient Bridge of Augustus.—The Tiber.—Extreme grandeur of the ancient Approach to Rome. First view of St. Peter's.—Reflections on the present State of Rome.

FROM Florence we had now to traverse the country known by the title of the Maremme, or the region of the Malaria, which stretches along the Mediterranean, from Leghorn to Terracina, extending inland as far as the first chain of the Apennines.

This is a theatre in which are contained the remains of the ancient world, and of its vanished glory; a land of memory, where the traveller finds nothing but ruins. Nature, exhausted by her former efforts, seems to have renounced the work of production; the fields are steril and uninhabited: the waters unwholesome and embued with sulphur: and the forests have no inhabitants but their ancient oaks which bid defiance to time.

From Empoli we proceeded directly southwards, advancing towards the chain of hills which

incloses the vale of Arno. We continued our way for another mile, under the verdant bowers which adorn the banks of that river, and then began to ascend the hill which was soon to hide this delicious vale from our sight.

With the ascent the vegetation becomes weaker and more scanty. We were still surrounded by vines and olives, but their foliage was pale, like the soil from which they spring. On the other side of the hill, we crossed several small valleys. They were still animated by villages, vineyards, and cultivated enclosures, and watered by a few canals; but the houses have lost the graceful character of the dwellings of the plain. They are clustered around the churches, and are neither adorned with flowers, nor enlivened by pretty peasant girls. A few villas and country houses are still to be seen, distinguishable, at a distance, by their long plantations of cypresses.

The land is here much divided, and occupied by farmers who rent it. It produces good wine, a little oil, wheat, Indian corn, and sorgo; but inferior both in quality and quantity, the wheat yielding only three for one. Sain-foin is also cultivated, but to no great extent. It is grown for the horses, great numbers of which are kept here, being employed in the carriage of all kinds of goods. This description of country, which is by no means unpicturesque, continues as far as *Castel Fiorentino*, situated four leagues from Empoli, on the frontier of the desert.

Here all cultivation ceases, and we enter the Maremme. The surface of the country is undulated, like the vast waves of an immense ocean, but softened in their forms by time, and the labours of man. On the ridges were to be seen from time to time, enclosures of mouldering walls and ancient towers, which seem still to make a shew of protection to the houses which were visible through their ruins.

In their valleys are a few houses, scattered at great distances from each other, and unsurrounded by gardens or verdure of any kind. They are merely habitations attached to some plots of Indian corn or sorgo, as if to inform the traveller that a few miserable beings still survived the dissolution of their country.

Above all the rest rises the eminence on which the aged walls of Volterra repose. From a distance, that ancient city appears in the horizon like a vast assemblage of walls, steeples, and towers. One might term it the capital of the middle ages, separated, by the wilderness, from all those countries which have forgotten the manners of their ancestors, and their respect for times past.

The inhabitants of the Maremme fix the period of their decline to about the time of the pestilence which prevailed in the sixteenth century, by which a great part of the population appears to have been destroyed. From that period it has never been sufficiently numerous to resist the destruc-

tive influence of the Malaria, which augments in proportion as the resistance of civilization diminishes.

The decline of the population, by destroying competition, has caused the price of property to fall : at which time the great capitalists of Tuscany obtained possession of it, and, from that moment, all productive activity was banished without hope of return. The attempts made to plant colonies in the Maremme all failed, the colonists dying of the fever before the settlement could be established. The soil is become sterile, as if utterly exhausted by the labours of man : it presents merely a pure white clay, mixed with sulphur, which forms in great abundance in this region. Sulphureous springs are seen bubbling out of the ground, announcing themselves, at a great distance, by an odour, and by exhalations which give a gloomy aspect to the face of the whole country. There is a frightful appearance about these *solfaterre*, as they are termed, which drives every inhabitant from their neighbourhood. Fetid flames rise amidst whirls of smoke from these little craters, the sides of which are covered with sulphureous incrustations, while a livid water boils in the centre.

There remained, therefore, no way of turning to advantage the soil of these countries, depopulated by nature, and fallen into the grasp of the great capitalists, but to abandon it to its indigenuous or natural productions, and to furnish it

with a migratory population, which should reside there only during the healthy season, and pasture their flocks on the herbage spontaneously yielded by nature.

The genial climate permitting the growth of vegetation during the whole winter, there has been established, between the plains of the Maremme, and the mountains of the Apennines, an exchange of population, by means of which, each of these regions is turned to the best account that its circumstances will admit. An intermediate class has naturally placed itself between them, consisting of migratory herdsmen and shepherds, whose only possessions are their flocks ; and who follow them from the mountains to the plain, according to the season, hiring the pasturage necessary for their support, at so much per head.

Such is the agricultural system of the Maremme, a system the adoption of which has, in some measure, been produced by circumstances, and which is likely to be permanent ; for without it there would be nothing but a perfect solitude. Its continuance is further secured by other circumstances, both of a local and general nature ; for the surrounding countries all depend for their supply of animal food on the produce of the Maremme.

Four hundred thousand sheep, thirty thousand horses, besides a vast number of horned cattle and goats, are fed in these regions, and compensate for the total want of breeding stock in the vale of Arno. The effect of this arrangement has no doubt been

to create a desert in the midst of Italy. But this state of things is still more the work of nature than of man; and considerable intelligence is manifested in thus getting possession, as it were, in defiance of natural obstructions, of a tract of country which seemed destined to be the dominion only of death.

The soil of the Maremme, at the same time that it has ceased to yield the vegetable productions necessary for the support of man, has become the subject of those chemical combinations by which sulphur, salt, and alum are formed in immense quantities. The collecting of these substances furnishes the means of subsistence to a great portion of the inhabitants, although the employment is only pursued during the season when there is nothing to apprehend from the effects of the air. In some places the roads assume a perfectly white colour, which the sun renders very dazzling. This seems to arise from the alabaster, of which the road is made. We find in this place, an entire mountain composed of it, and it is from hence that the blocks used by the modellers and statuaries are obtained. This road, actually paved as it is with alabaster, gives an idea of an avenue through some enchanted region, and forms a most singular contrast with the scene afforded by the surrounding country.

VOLTERRA is situated on the summit of an eminence of about half an hour's ascent. The ancient splendour of this city is attested by

ruined convents of great extent, deserted gardens, roofless palaces, and mouldering walls; and amidst these melancholy remains of former grandeur, three thousand inhabitants, for the most part peasants, or manufacturers of alabaster, still vegetate.

The traces of that gradual decay which silently undermines the works of creation, is no where more awfully impressed than on the walls of Volterra. Its pale inhabitants wander like shades, amidst the ruins of majestic grandeur; and, as if dismayed at the sight of the surrounding desolation, do not attempt to preserve even their own habitations from the fate which threatens them: they abandon them to the elements, and await, with resignation, the periodical scourge which nature seems to have commissioned to decimate them every year.

It is generally supposed that the noxious atmosphere, which depopulates the plains of Italy, along the shores of the Mediterranean, proceeds from marshes and stagnating waters, which are every where found to render the air insalubrious. This may, perhaps, be the case in the Pontine marshes; but in the Maremme of Tuscany and the Campagna of Rome, it cannot be attributed to this cause; for these Maremme are an elevated region, where the winds and the air have free circulation, and where there are neither marshes nor stagnant waters; and yet this scourge is felt with as much violence on the lofty summit of the hills as in the forests.

It would seem probable, that this corruption of the air arises from the chemical constitution of the soil of this volcanic region; a constitution which it has gradually acquired by a process of nature, and a course of events, unknown to us. It is certain at least, that the cause of these constant and terrible phenomena is not yet known. Both the medical men and the chemists, who have attempted to account for them, have alike failed; for their hypotheses are contradicted by facts, and they have never, to the present moment, been able to discover the source of that mysterious influence which diffuses itself like an invisible fluid; and the presence of which is not in any way indicated. The sky is as clear, the verdure as fresh, the air as serene, as elsewhere; the tranquillity of the scene seems calculated to inspire a feeling of perfect security, and yet I cannot describe the secret dread which one experiences, in spite of one's self, on breathing this air, at once so soft and so deleterious.

The effect produced by this slow destruction of the human constitution, cannot be conceived except by those who have actually visited these provinces during the dangerous season. Their dejected inhabitants gradually lose the healthy colour of life; their complexion becomes livid and yellow: their strength declines daily; numbers of them perish before the end of the season; and even those to whom Providence reserves a few more years of existence, have scarcely spirits to desire

them. They lose their animation, and fall into a complete despondency; and this moral debilitation tends, perhaps, equally with the pestilential atmosphere, to hasten the termination of their existence.

The effect of this physical and moral depression is a periodical suspension of all social intercourse, as well as of all the pursuits of industry; and the rural economy of these countries has necessarily been arranged with a reference to these circumstances. This economy I was desirous of studying, because it appears to me to have been misunderstood by all travellers; and I shall now attempt to describe it.

The great road from Florence to Rome passes through the Maremme of Tuscany as far as Acquapendente, where it enters the Roman territory. Here the nature of the soil, and with it the face of the country, changes. The argillaceous hills, whose whiteness and barrenness fatigue the eye have disappeared, and a luxuriant vegetation announces the fertility of the black volcanic sand of which the soil is composed. For several leagues the road successively rises and falls, till it reaches the lakes of Bolseno and Vico, around which immense forests, extending from the Apennines to the sea-shore, have grown for centuries. In the midst of these woods, which human industry seems to have forgotten, are openings of great extent, covered, like the savannahs of America, with natural grasses, and plants, whose singular

growth gives a sort of African character to this neglected scenery.

The towns are surrounded by fertile gardens and vineyards, where the vines are not trained over trees, as in Tuscany, but against trellises of reed. Fig-trees and aloes grow every where amidst the ruins, and adorn them with their deep verdure and Oriental forms; while at a distance, corn-fields, interspersed in the openings of the woods, display, amidst the wildness of nature, the only mark of the presence and industry of man.

The crops produced by these fields are most luxuriant. The land is previously suffered to repose, for seven years, in a state of pasturage; and such is its fertility, that immediately after the crop is off, it becomes spontaneously covered with vigorous herbage. In this state it feeds immense herds of horned cattle, horses and sheep; but after a few years the turf wears out; briars, reeds, and broad-leaved plants, cover the soil, and the farmer, after having burned them, ploughs them up. During the year of fallow which succeeds, it is turned over by the spade no less than seven times; and after this labour, which is necessary to destroy the roots of the wild vegetables, the corn is sown. The land thus prepared yields a produce of eight for one; and is then again suffered to return to the state of natural pasture, from which it has been with so much trouble reclaimed.

In this part of Italy, therefore, one-seventh only

of the land is in a state of cultivation; the rest being abandoned to its spontaneous vegetation, and to the pasturage of cattle. The whole extent of cleared land is indeed very limited, two-thirds of the country being covered by forests.

The vegetation of these majestic woods, cherished by the hand of nature, is too luxuriant to be employed, as in Tuscany, for pasturage. The eye cannot penetrate their depth; and the imagination peoples their gloom with the spirits of that ancient people, who formerly rendered these deserts illustrious, and delights in contemplating the solitary shades thus consecrated by their memory.

The sound of the axe is rarely heard here, for the value of the timber would by no means repay the expense of felling it. It is only used in working the iron mines in the Island of Elba. There is no other market near enough to render it worth while to cut the timber. As for the consumption of the country, it is so trifling as to be scarcely perceptible.

The whole region I have been describing, is divided into vast estates, except the land immediately adjacent to the towns, where there are gardens and vineyards. These extensive domains are at once a result, and a cause, of the insalubrity of the atmosphere, and have long since banished all the rural population from the fields. Throughout the whole country, not a village, not a hamlet, I may even say, not a farm-house, is to be

seen. The peasantry live in the cities and towns, where landlords, farmers, labourers, merchants, and artisans, all vegetate together. The only erections that appear in the country are solitary buildings, at great distances from each other, called *Casali*. They are attached to the several estates, but contain no families, or inhabitants of any kind; being merely a place of shelter, during the working season, for the herdsmen and labourers, who retire there in the evening to avoid the humidity of the nights, and to eat the provisions which are brought to them from the neighbouring town. There is nothing rural, nothing patriarchal, however, about these dwellings.

The cattle which rove about these immense farms, under the care of a few herdsmen, are very superior to those found on the scanty pastures of Tuscany. They are of the most stately make and beautiful form, and their immense horns give them a proud and dignified air which is heightened by a certain fierce expression, derived from their wild and savage habits of life. All their movements are measured and graceful, and their action is altogether different from the breeds of the north; insomuch that they are employed in every description of work, even in carrying goods; for which purpose they are far preferable to the horses.

At Ronciglione, situated at the foot of the mountains of Viterbo, commences the celebrated plain which surrounds the city of Rome. It is

bounded by the sea and by a range of mountains, enclosing it like an amphitheatre, from the promontory of Circe to the hills of ancient Etruria. The surface of this plain, which is thirty leagues in length, by ten or twelve wide, is not level and uniform, like those of aqueous formation; but forms a continued suite of undulations. These do not follow any common direction, nor are any of them much higher than others, but they confine the view, so that you only see the country immediately around you.

The traveller meets with no buildings on the road but a few inns, or post-houses. Those of Baccano, and La Storta, belong to the Princes Chigi and Borghese; and are built with a magnificence which alone, amidst the desert that surrounds him, reveals to him that he is in the close vicinity of Rome. This he would not otherwise suspect, until he reaches the summit of Monte Mario; whence the Tiber, and the seven hills with their domes and edifices, burst at once upon the view.

To return to the course of our route from Florence, and the principal objects and places worthy the traveller's notice on it, I may observe, the ancient town of Spoletum or Spoleto, is situated a short distance from the high road to Rome on the eastern side, towards the Apennines. It is situated on the side and summit of a considerable hill. It is a well known historical fact, that Hannibal attacked this town, immediately after

the defeat of the Romans at Thrasimenus; and the inhabitants to the present day feel themselves entitled to glory in having repulsed the Carthaginian general, flushed as he was with conquest, and certain of success. An ancient gate commemorates this event, so honourable to the people of Spoleto, in an inscription on the great arch. There seems to exist in Spoleto, as in many Italian towns founded by Roman colonies, a vivid recollection of the glory of their ancestry. Notwithstanding the lapse of so many ages, so many cruel and destructive invasions; though insulted, plundered, and almost enslaved; the Italians, as a people, appear to remember, with generous and high-minded pride, that the Romans were their ancestors; and they cherish the records of their glorious achievements as an inheritance of honour, their birthright to fame. This is, indeed, at all times the only possession which their invaders cannot wrest from them.

Two other gates appear, by their form and materials to have some claim to antiquity. Some vast masses of stone, forming the piers of a bridge, the ruins of a theatre, and of a temple said to be dedicated to Concord. The cathedral in a commanding situation, presents a front of five Gothic arches, supported by Grecian pillars; and within, consists of a Latin cross, with a double range of pillars, of neat and pleasing architecture. The order is Corinthian. The two side altars are particularly beautiful. Two can-

delabra of vast dimensions also deserve particular attention; and the view from the terrace of the cathedral is very extensive and beautiful. Near it a very fine fountain of a most elegant form pours out a torrent of the purest water. The Roman Pontiffs, it must be acknowledged, have in this respect, retained the sound maxim of antiquity, and studiously endeavoured to unite the useful and the agreeable. In no part of the world is water employed to more advantage, or poured forth in greater abundance, than in the Roman territories. It is sometimes drawn from distant sources, sometimes collected from various springs and gathered into one channel, but always devoted to public and beneficial purposes.

The castle is a monument of barbarous antiquity. It is a vast stone building, surrounded by a stone rampart, standing on a high hill that overlooks the town; but being itself commanded by another of still greater height, it loses in modern times much of its advantage in case of attack, by the present mode of warfare. Behind the castle, a celebrated aqueduct, supported by arches of an astonishing elevation, run across a deep dell, and by a bridge unites the town with the noble hill that rises behind it, called Monte Luco. This latter is covered with evergreen oaks, and is adorned with the white cells of a tribe of hermits, established on its shaded sides. These hermits are bound in their community by regulations entirely different from those which distinguish

most others bearing that name. They are not restricted in personal enjoyments by any vows, nor do they distress themselves by the rigid observance of trifling and unimportant ceremonies ; and, notwithstanding this kind of general independence, they are said to lead very pure, and most exemplary lives. The aqueduct is Roman, but is said to have been repaired by the Goths. The town of Spoleto is in general well built ; and though occasionally damaged by earthquakes,—as we were informed by various inscriptions on the public buildings—yet it possesses many noble edifices, and most beautiful palaces, all worthy the attention and enquiry of an intelligent traveller.

The road from Spoleto is bordered by a stream on the left, and wooded hills on the right. About two miles from the town, we began to ascend the Somma. The road is excellent, and winds up the steep, without presenting any thing particularly interesting, till we reached the summit, whence we enjoyed a delightful and extensive view over Spoleto and its plain, or the vale of Clitumnus, on one side ; and on the other towards Terni, and the plains of the Nar. Monte Somma is supposed to have taken its name from a temple of Jupiter Summanus, placed on its summit. It is nearly five thousand feet high ; fertile, shaded with olive, ilex, and forest trees ; well cultivated, and enlivened with several little towns. The descent is long and rapid, and extends to the stage next to Terni. This ancient town retains

no trace of its former splendour, though it may certainly boast of some fine palaces, and, what is superior to all palaces, a most charming situation. Over the gates of the amphitheatre is an inscription, informing the traveller, that Terni gave birth to Tacitus the historian, and the emperors Tacitus and Florian. What country towns have the honour of three men so truly illustrious amongst their natives ! The principal glory and boast of Terni at the present day is, however, the celebrated cascade in its neighbourhood ; and which may truly be considered as one of the noblest and most extraordinary objects of this class, not only in Italy, but in the whole universe.

To enjoy all the varied beauties of this magnificent and wonderful fall of water, it is necessary to take a first view of it from the side of the hill beyond the river Nar. The road to it runs through the valley along the river, sometimes overshadowed by the superincumbent mountain, with its groves of pine, ilex, and beech rustling above, and at every turn exhibiting new scenery of rocks, woods, and waters. At length you climb the steep, shaggy sides of the hill, and from a natural platform, behold the cascade in front, in all its imposing beauty and grandeur. The point of view also which enabled us to see with much advantage the second fall, when the river, bursting from the bason into which it was first precipitated, tumbles over a ridge of broken rocks. in sheets of varied character and appearance, and half veiled

in spray and foam. From this spot are taken most of the views hitherto published of this wonderful fall; and when we visited it, there were two artists engaged in studying and sketching from it. It is usual to devote a second day to the examination of the cascade from above, and the excursion is commenced from the earliest dawn. Mules or one horse chairs, are commonly hired though, if the weather be cool, and the traveller accustomed to walk, it may be pleasantly performed on foot. The upper road crosses a plain, which is varied with olives, vines, and corn-fields, and climbs the mountain, through a defile, whose sides are clad with vines below, and with box and ilex above. In the dell the river Nar, of a wheyish colour, bounds along in a foaming state, through the rocky channel. In the centre of the defile rises an insulated eminence, which is topped with the ruins of the village of Papignia, destroyed by the French.

Ascending still higher, we arrive at an angle, where the road is worked through the solid rock, and forming a very elevated terrace, gives you a view of Terni and its plain, the dell below, with the Nar, the mountains around, with their woods, and the Velino itself, at a considerable distance, just bursting from the shade, and throwing itself down the steep. The road still continues along the precipice, then crosses a small plain bounded by high mountains; when you quit it and follow a pathway that brings you to a shed, placed on

the point of a hill, just opposite to the cascade, and so near to it indeed, that you are occasionally covered with its spray.

From this point the magnificent phenomenon may be observed at leisure. At a little distance beyond the cascade, rise two hills, of a fine swelling form, covered with groves of ilex. The Velino passes near one of these hills, and suddenly tumbling over a ridge of broken rock, rushes headlong down in one vast sheet, and in three streamlets. The precipice is of brown rock, whose sides are smooth and naked, forming a semicircle crowned with wood on the right, and on the left rising steep, and feathered with evergreens. On the one side it ascends in broken ridges, and on the other sinks gradually away, and subsides in a narrow valley, through which the Nar glides gently along, while the Velino after its fall, rolls through the dell in boisterous agitation. Its artificial bed is straight, but before it reaches it, it wanders through a fertile plain, spread between the mountains, extending to the Lake Pie de Lugo. This beautiful expanse of water, about a mile in breadth, fills the defile, and meanders between the mountains for some miles. The way to it from the fall, is by a path winding along the foot of the mountain, and leading to a cottage, where a boat may be taken to cross to a bold promontory opposite. From that point may be enjoyed the view of the waters, the bordering mountains, the towns perched on

their sides, the village Pie du Lugo, and, rising behind it, the old castle of Labro, whose dismantled towers crown a regular hill, while its shattered walls run in long lines down the declivity. We were here entertained with an echo, the most articulate, the most retentive, and the most musical I ever heard; repeating even a whole verse of a song after a singer, in a softer and more plaintive tone indeed, but with surprising precision and distinctness. We remained for some time on the point of the promontory, partly to listen to the strains of this invisible and extraordinary songstress, and then crossed the lake to the village.

We would willingly have followed the banks of the Velino up to its source and visited Reiti, with its vale of Tempe, alluded to by Cicero; but the day was on the decline, and it would have been imprudent to have allowed ourselves to be benighted, either amid the solitudes of the mountain, or on its declivity. We therefore returned, again visited the cascade, ranged through a variety of natural grottos and caverns, which were formed in its neighbourhood by the water, before its present spacious bed was opened to receive it; and, descending the hill, hastened to Terni.

The river Nar or Nera, is the southern boundary of that portion of the territory formerly called Umbria; and traverses, in its way to Narni, about nine miles distant, a vale of most delight-

ful appearance. The Appenine, but in its mildest form, bounds this plain; the milky Nera intersects it, and a fertility equal to that of the neighbouring vales, (but compressed into a smaller space, and of course placed more immediately within the reach of observation,) adorns it on all sides with vegetation and beauty; so that indeed it resembles an extensive and noble park, the appendage of some princely palace, laid out and cultivated by the hand of taste, to please the eye and amuse the fancy. The ancient Roman colony of Narni stands on the summit of a very high and steep hill; whose sides are clothed with olives, and whose base is washed by the Nar. At the foot of the hill we alighted, in order to visit the celebrated bridge of Augustus. This noble row of arches, thrown over the stream and the defile through which it rolls, to open a communication between the two mountains, and facilitate the approach to the town, was formed of vast blocks of a white stone, fitted together without cement. Of this important pile there still remains the piers, and one of the arches; the other arches are fallen; and their fall seems to have been occasioned by the sinking of the middle pier: a fabric of so much solidity and massive strength, must otherwise have been capable of resisting the influence of time and the action of the weather.

The views towards the bridge on the high road, and the plain on one side; and on the

other, through the remaining arch along the river, are of uncommon beauty, and unusually picturesque and pleasing. We proceeded through this dell, along the Nera, tumbling and murmuring over its rocky channel; and then, with some difficulty, worked our way through the olives and evergreens that line the steep up to the town. We were particularly struck with its romantic appearance. Its walls and towns spread along the uneven summit, sometimes concealed in groves of cypress, ilex and laurel, and sometimes emerging from the shade, and rising above their waving tops; the most delightful prospects of the vales, towns, rivers and mountains opening here and there unexpectedly to the view; these are all the features of the most pleasing and impressive character. But these are even encreased in their effect by a certain loneliness and silence, which prevails even in the streets; the consequence and sad memorial of ages of revolution, disaster, and suffering. In these respects, few Italian towns have suffered more than Narni.

From Narni, the road runs through the defile along the middle of the declivity, till, suddenly, the opposite mountain appears as if it burst asunder, and opens through its wooded and shaggy sides an extensive and interesting view over the plain of the river Tiber, and terminating in the mountains of Viterbo. Here we left the defile and the Nera, but continued to enjoy mountain and forest scenery of the finest description, for

some miles, till, descending the last declivity, a few miles from Orte, in the midst of a spacious and verdant plain, we beheld, for the first time, clear and distinct, glittering in the beams of the sun, and winding along in silent dignity, the Tiber.

Orte, the post town, stands on the side of a hill, about two miles from the ancient town, whence it takes its name. The remains of the latter lie spread in the plain below, along the banks of the Tiber; and present a considerable heap of fragments, in which the vestiges of a theatre perhaps, and a few porticos may be perceived; while the principal features of the town are lost and buried in a mass of undistinguishable ruin.

We now crossed the Tiber by the Ponto Felice, changed horses at Borghetto, and arrived, when dark, at Civita Castellana.

From Civita Castellana, we passed over a tract of forest country, enjoying beautiful views of the Montes Crinini, with their towns, villas, and villages to the right; and an occasional glimpse of the town of Soracte to the left. And, having passed the river Falisci, which anciently gave its name to the people and territory of the Falisci, we arrived at Nepi, a small but very ancient episcopal town, whose cathedral, which is built on the scite of a temple, was consecrated, according to an inscription over one of the doors, by the blood of the inhabitants, in the early period of the year 150.

It has been supposed by many authors, that, in former times, the road from the town of Nepi, or rather from the Ponte Felice, was actually lined with a succession of magnificent edifices, obelisks, and palaces; adorned with statues; and conducted, under triumphal arches of the noblest architecture, to the very gates of the imperial city. If this opinion be accurate however, (and it has been very general) it is certainly singular that no traces should now remain of all these splendid monuments. No mounds nor remnants of walls, no mouldering heaps of ruins, scarcely even a solitary tomb has survived the general wreck. On the contrary, beyond the town of Nepi, or rather beyond Monte Rosi, which is the next stage towards Rome, the Campagna, as it is termed, begins to expand its dreary solitudes; and naked hills and swampy plains rise and sink by turns, without presenting a single object worthy the traveller's attentive observance. It must not, however, be supposed, that no vegetation decorates these dreary wilds. On the contrary, verdure but seldom interrupted, occasional corn-fields, and numerous herds and flocks, communicate some degree of animation to these regions, otherwise so desolate: but descending from mountains (the natural seat of barrenness, where still we had witnessed rural beauty and the highest cultivation) to a plain, in the immediate vicinity of a populous city, where we might naturally expect the perfection of horticulture,

and all the vivacious bustle of a city population, we were doubly struck with the wide waste that spreads around ; and could not but wonder what might be the cause that deprived so extensive a tract of its inhabitants, and the usual indications of cheerfulness. But a certain air of neatness, and an increased density of population announce the neighbourhood of every common town ; they are the usual accompaniments of capitals, and, in their general occurrence, excite no interest. The solitude that encircles the fallen metropolis of the world is doubly singular and grand ; it well becomes its fallen majesty : it awakens a sentiment of reverential awe and melancholy, and is, perhaps, more consonant to the character of the city than more lively and exhilarating scenery. In the instance of Her Royal Highness, it could not be otherwise. Notwithstanding the evident endeavour to conceal a depression of spirits, and a benevolent desire to communicate happiness to those around her, Her Royal Highness evidently felt an interest in the scene, and dwelt on it with a becoming spirit of philosophy.

Baccano, a solitary post-house, bearing the name of an ancient town, stands in a little valley, surrounded on all sides with hills, forming a verdant amphitheatre that wants nothing but trees of considerable bulk to be extremely beautiful. About four miles to the right, is the lake Bracceana.

On the heights above Baccano, the carriages stopped, and, pointing to a pinnacle that ap-

peared 'emerging between two hills,--- "Roma! Roma!" was the universal exclamation of the Italians of our party.--- That pinnacle was the cross of Saint Peter's. --- The " ETERNAL CITY " now rose before us.

As may well be supposed, we partook largely of this emotion; and, after a short pause, proceeded towards the ruins of "Imperial Rome," occupied in deep reflection.

As the traveller advances over the dreary wilds of the Campagna---where not one object occurs to awaken his attention---he has time to recover from the surprise and agitation which the first view of Rome seldom fails to excite in liberal and ingenuous minds. He may naturally be supposed to enquire into the cause of these emotions, and at first he may be inclined to attribute them solely to the influence of early habits; and ascribe the feelings of the man to the warm imagination of youth. Without doubt, the name of Rome echos in our ears from our infancy; our lisping tongues are tuned to her language; and our first and most delightful years are passed among her orators, poets, and historians.

But these are not the real causes. Rome, the mistress of the world, claims our respect and affection, on grounds which the Christian and the philosopher must admit with grateful acknowledgement. Her ancient origin and venerable fame; her mighty achievements and vast empire; her heroes and her saints; the majesty of

her language, and the charms of her literature, all these,---which will perpetuate her name when her very ruins shall have disappeared---are among the real causes of our attachment and our admiration.

But more than even all these. Rome has been, in the hands of Providence, the instrument of communicating to Europe, and to a considerable portion of the globe, the three great blessings of which human nature is susceptible---Civilization, Science, and Religion. The system of Roman government seems to have been peculiarly adapted to the attainment of this great end; and the extension of her empire to have been ordained by heaven for its full accomplishment.

CHAPTER X.

The approach to Rome—Its antient importance powerfully contrasted with its present State.— Compared with Jerusalem in its consequence to the World.---Arrival in Rome---General Description of it.---Present desolate Condition.---Visit to St. Peter's.---Its vast Grandeur.---Visit to the Capitol.---Its beautiful and interesting Prospects. Other Remains of antient Rome of general Interest described.

IN ancient times, the despotism of the eastern monarchies kept mankind in an abject slavery ; the narrow policy of the Greek republics confined the blessing of liberty within the precincts of their own countries ; Rome, with more generous sentiments, gradually extended her own rights and privileges to the capitals of her conquered countries, enrolled their natives into her armies, and admitted their nobles into their senate. Thus those who became her subjects by conquest, advanced in honours as they improved in civilization ; and made hourly approaches to the manners and virtues of the conquerors, till every province became another Italy, every city another Rome. With her laws and her freedom, she communicated to them her arts and sciences. Wherever the Roman eagles penetrated, schools were opened, and public teachers were pensioned. Aqueducts

bridges, temples, and theatres were raised in almost every town : and all the powers of architecture, sculpture, and painting, were employed to decorate the capitals of the most distant provinces. Roads, the mere remains of which surprise us, even in this day, were carried from the Roman Forum, as the centre of this vast empire, to its utmost extremities : and all the tribes and nations that composed it were thus linked together, not only by the same laws, and the same government, but by all the felicities of a commodious intercourse, and constant intercommunication. If the state of ancient Gaul, Spain, and Britain, when covered with numberless cities, and flourishing in all the arts of peace, under the immediate and powerful protection of the Roman empire, be compared with their wild forests, their swamps, and the rude huts of their half-naked, and savage inhabitants, who were thinly scattered over their wastes previous to their subjugation, we shall be able to appreciate the blessing those countries owed to the conquering arms of Rome.

Rome thus civilized and polished mankind, and prepared them for the reception of Christianity ; and when the world, influenced by her instructions and example, became Christian, she became, by a new and more venerable title, the metropolis of the world ; and assumed, in a more sacred sense, the appellation of the “ Holy City,” the “ Parent of Mankind.” Afterwards, when in the course of

the two succeeding ages, she was stript of her imperial honours, by the ravages of successive hordes of barbarians, she again renewed her benevolent exertions ; and sent out---not armies to conquer, as heretofore,---but in the spirit of Christianity, apostles to reclaim the savage tribes which had wasted her empire. She thus bore the light of heaven into the dark recesses of idolatry ; and displaying all the wisdom and perseverance which had marked her former glorious career, she triumphed, and in spite of ignorance and barbarianism again spread Christianity over the west.

The muses, which had followed the Roman eagles in their victorious flight, now accompanied her humble missionaries in their expeditions of charity ; and with them penetrated the swamps, the forests, and the mountains of barbarous and benighted regions. Schools, that vied in learning and celebrity with her own far-famed seminaries, rose, and the beams of science were diffused over the vast and inhospitable tracts of the north, even to the polar circles.

The arts followed the traces of learning : and the untutored savages saw with surprise temples of stone rise in their sacred groves ; the venerable forms of the apostles of Christianity in the finest marble replace the uncouth statues of their idols. The figure of the Redeemer, till then unknown, seemed to breathe on canvass to their eyes ; and music, far surpassing in sweetness and expression

the finest strains of their own bards, announced to them the mercies they were thus summoned to adore. Religion, thus adorned, and thus accompanied with blessings, was eagerly embraced ; and Europe finally settled in Christianity, and enlightened by science by the exertions of Rome.

To conclude these (not perhaps unimportant) reflections. There are, perhaps, in the whole universe but two cities which are interesting alike to every member of the great Christian world, to every member of the civilized community of whatever tribe or nation---Rome and Jerusalem. The former calls up the most worthy recollections ; the latter awakens every sentiment of devotion ; the one may be said to bring before our imagination all the splendours of the present world ; the other, all the glories of the world to come. The cross which Jerusalem erected on Mount Calvary, Rome fixed on the diadem of her emperors ; and the prophetic songs of Mount Sion, have resounded from the seven hills of Rome to the extremities of the universe. How natural then surely is the emotion which the traveller feels, when he first beholds the distant domes of a city of such figure and importance in the history of the world, of such weight in the destinies of mankind, so familiar to the imagination of the child, so interesting to the feelings of the man !

While occupied in these and such reflections, we passed Monte Mairo, and beheld the city

gradually opening to our view: turrets and cupolas succeeded each other, with long lines of palaces between, till the dome of the Vatican itself, lifting its majestic form far above the rest, fixed the wandering eye, and closed the prospect with becoming grandeur. We crossed the Tiber by the Ponte Molle, and proceeded on the Via Flaminia, through the suburb, entered the Porta del Popolo, admired the beautiful square that receives the traveller on his entrance, and drove, in the first instance, to the Piazza d'Espagne. After making the necessary arrangements for Her Royal Highness's comfort and accommodation, some of our party proceeded to take a hasty view of Saint Peter's. We traversed its superb court, contemplated—in silence and in wonder---its obelisk, its fountains, its colonade, its lengthening nave, its altar, and its varied beauties.

Her Royal Highness's stay in Rome was, at this visit, but short; being merely taken in the route to Naples, at which place it was already determined to pass the winter. During Her Royal Highness's present residence, she was lodged at the Palace Borghesse, where she was constantly visited by all the British nobility and persons of distinction resident at Rome, as well as the Italian nobility.

Before I enter into any detailed description of the palaces, temples, and other buildings, which remain of the magnificence of ancient Rome, and which possess so high an interest and curiosity,

it will be necessary to give the untraveller English reader some general ideas of the present condition and circumstances of Rome, and to mark the distinction between what may be termed ancient and modern Rome.

It may be estimated that, from different causes, the population of modern Rome is reduced from one hundred and sixty thousand, (which was the amount twenty years ago,) to one hundred thousand; and there is but too much reason to be satisfied, that this difference is mainly to be attributed to the effects of the pestilential atmosphere of the surrounding country. So rapid a reduction of the inhabitants necessarily leaves considerable districts of the city without residents; and thus whole streets, which were formerly the scenes of opulence and splendour, are now in a state of complete desertion, and gloomy silence. Places which were then crowded with sumptuous equipages and liveries, and decorated with magnificent palaces, in which strangers were received with pressing hospitality, and in which every thing, in short, had an appearance of activity and wealth, are now filled with droves of cattle, goats, and half-wild horses; driven by Tartar-looking herdsmen, armed with long pikes, and filling the air with clouds of dust.

These men come every evening, with their flocks, to seek an assylum within the walls of Rome, from the fate which awaits them in the fields. They take possession of the streets, and

palaces : which are abandoned by the inhabitants, as the population diminishes, and as the advance of the noxious atmosphere drives them towards the centre of the city. The Porta del Popolo, a part of the Corso, the entire quarters of the Quirinale, of La Trinità del Monte, and the Trastevere, are already deserted ; and the country people have taken up their residence in them. Of the one hundred thousand, to which the population is reduced, ten thousand are vine-dressers, herdsmen, or gardeners. There are extensive districts in Rome, which are actually nothing more than villages, inhabited by the peasantry, whom the pestilential atmosphere has compelled to abandon their habitations in the country.

So rapid a depopulation, in so short a space of time, is almost without example. The political events which have occurred during that period, have no doubt contributed, in some degree, to occasion this reduction ; but its principal cause must be referred to the general circumstances of the city, and to the effect of the Malaria. This scourge is every year advancing. Every year it invades some fresh street, some new square or quarter, and every year its terrible influence is augmented ; for it encreases precisely in the inverse ratio of the resistance occasioned by the population. The fewer inhabitants there are the more victims ; and one funeral is always the fore-runner of many others.

It is, therefore, probable, that we are arrived

at that period of the history of this queen of cities, which is destined to strip her of her splendour, and leave to her, of all her glory, nothing but her immortal name. The walls of Rome, in another century will, probably, contain nothing but a vast assemblage of monuments, palaces, and ruins of all ages. The goatherd, the vine-dresser, and the shepherd, will dwell in her magnificent portico, and thus will terminate the history of Rome. She has long survived her rivals; but, like Athens and Porsepolis, she must experience the common fate of all that the hand of man hath raised, and be herself destroyed.

The city presents every where the appearance of ruin. As there are more houses than inhabitants, they are never repaired; when they become out of order, the occupiers remove to others. Neither doors, stairs, nor roof, are ever replaced: they fall to decay, and are left to remain where they fall. Multitudes of convents have thus acquired the appearance of ruins; and a great number of palaces, no longer habitable, are left without even a porter to take care of them. This universal neglect has, together with the droves of cattle, and Tartar-looking people, which fill the streets; already occasioned a striking appearance of desolation and decay.

Amidst this general neglect of all the private structures, a great bustle is seen about all the remains of antiquity which have been spared by time. The government has recently adopted a

grand project of removing the rubbish by which they are obstructed, and of connecting, and grouping them together, so as to place these inestimable remains in the most picturesque and advantageous points of view.

The whole of the space comprehended within the Capitol, the Temple of Peace, the Coliseum, and the Tiber, is already cleared of all its modern edifices, and of all the walls and mean buildings which were accumulated about the Palatine mount, and which obstructed both the approach and the view of this noble area. It is intended to surround it with a double avenue of trees, within the enclosure of which these ruined temples and triumphal arches will repose on the turf, forming a sort of unique pleasure ground, diversified by the Palatine and Aventine hills, and ornamented by the Capitol and the Coliseum.

This vast and noble design, inspired by the veneration of antiquity, is however only a tribute of respect paid to its inanimate remains, and has no influence on the social state of modern Rome. Every thing there appears to be the work of former times : nothing new is to be seen. Each one uses his possessions to the last ; as if a kind of presentiment deterred him from undertaking or attempting any thing : and this species of langour is, itself, a powerful cause of decline, because it extinguishes all productive industry. The labourer and the artisan perish for the want of subsistence ; the whole of the industrious popu-

tion soon disappears ; and the destruction of the class of consumers, ruins, in turn, that of the producers.

There is, in fact, no city where the necessities of life are so cheap as at Rome ; the supplies provided for a population of one hundred and sixty-six thousand, being now consumed by one hundred thousand only. The only advantage of this low price is, that it tempts the inhabitants to stay. For a long time to come, it is probable that a certain population, consisting of the possessors of property, will be concentrated about the middle of the city, and there struggle against the pestilential atmosphere ; while all the rest of Rome, abandoned to the elements, will be nothing but a vast heap of solitary ruins.

Such is the scene which strikes you on passing through those quarters of the city which have been long deserted, and which present a singular mixture of town and country, of porticos, and of miserable huts. I was, one evening contemplating this scene, at once so impressive and extraordinary, from the garden of a ruined convent, between the Coliseum and the temple of Peace. Before me lay the valley which separates the Palatine hill from Mount Cælius, with the arch of Constantine, and the Via Sacra. On the summit of the hill of the Cæsars, rose the palm-tree, displaying itself in the azure sky, like a last trophy of glories past ; while on the opposite hill, a row of cypresses extend, like a funeral decoration, to

the verge of the horizon, and seemed to mourn that these glories were departed.

On the other side of the Tiber, towards the Basilicum of Saint Peter, and the Porta Angelica, I passed through Streets entirely deserted, and which were inhabited only by the herdsmen, who as usual, came to pass the night in this insecure asylum. All the environs of the Vatican were abandoned in like manner. I was particularly struck with this loneliness on going early one morning to the church of Saint Peter. The sun was just rising as I was entering the area: the gates of the temple were still closed; a profound tranquillity reigned throughout, interrupted only by the distant tinkling of the bells of flocks which were returning to the pastures. The obelisk still rested on its brazen pediment, and the two fountains were pouring forth their everlasting streams. The pavement was not trodden by a single foot, and I arrived at the vestibule without meeting a human being. The freshness of the morning, and the tints of the dawn, diffused an inexpressible charm over this divine solitude: I contemplated at once the temple, the porticos, and the heavens; and, for the first time, felt the full effect of those magnificent phenomena, with which nature accompanies the rising and the declining day.

Our present stay in Rome being short and prescribed, the view we were enabled to take of it, although necessarily of less minute detail, as to

ruins, statues, pictures, and objects of minor interest than that of many travellers, was yet methodically arranged, of more solid efficacy, and will be more pleasant and satisfactory to the general reader than more laboured descriptions.

We renewed our visit to Saint Peter's next morning, and examined it more in detail. The preceding day it had been somewhat veiled by the dimness of the evening ; it was now lighted up by the splendour of the morning sun. The rich marbles that compose its pavement and line its walls ; the paintings that adorn its cupulos ; the bronze that enriches its altars and railings ; the gilding that lines the pannels of its vault ; the mosaics that rise one above the other in brilliant succession, up to its dome, now shone forth in all their varied colours. Its nave, its aisles, its transepts, expanded their vistas and hailed the spectator, wherever he turned, with a long succession of splendid objects, and beautiful arrangement ; in short, the whole of this most majestic fabric opened itself at once to the sight, and filled the eye and the imagination with magnitude, proportion, richness and grandeur.

From Saint Peter's we hastened to the Capitol; and, ascending the tower, seated ourselves under the shade of its pinnacle, and fixed our attention on the view beneath and around us. That view was no other than ancient and modern Rome. Behind us, the modern city lay extended over the

Campus Martius, and, spreading along the banks of the Tiber, formed a curve around the base of the Capitol. Before us, scattered in vast shapeless masses, over the seven hills, and through the intervening valleys, arose the ruins of the ancient city. They stood desolate, amidst solitude and silence, with groves of funeral cypress waving over them ; the awful and impressive monuments, not of individuals, but of entire generations ; not of men, but of empires.

A traveller feels a strong emotion, a sentiment of melancholy resignation to the common fate of all earthly things, when he beholds, extended in disordered heaps before him, the disjointed " carcase of fallen Rome," once the grand receptacle of nations, " the common asylum of mankind ; the fountain of wealth and power, the sensorium of wisdom and valour." To a contemplative mind, the survey is, indeed, awful and impressive. Immediately under the eye, and at the foot of the capitol, lay the Forum, lined with solitary columns, and commencing and terminating in a triumphal arch. Beyond, and just before us, rose the Palatine mount, encumbered with the ruins of the imperial palace, and of the temple of Apollo ; and still farther on, ascends the Celian mount, with the temple of Faunus on its summit. On the right was the Aventine, spotted with heaps of stone, which swell amidst its lonely vineyards. To the left the Esquiline, with its scattered tombs, and tottering aqueducts ; and, in the same line,

the Verninal and the Quirinal, terminating in the once magnificent baths of Dioclesian. The baths of Antonius, the temple of Minerva, and many a venerable fabric, bearing on its shattered form the traces of the iron hand of destruction, as well as the furrows of age, lay scattered, up and down in the vast field ; while the superb temples of Saint John Lateran, Santa Maria Maggiore, and Santa Crose, arose, with their pointed obelisks, majestic but solitary monuments, amidst the extensive waste of time and desolation ; and the ancient walls of Rome, lying in a vast circumference, formed a frame of venerable aspect, well adapted to this picture of ruin, this cemetery of ages.

Beyond, the eye ranged over the deserted Campagna, and rested on the Alban mount ; which rose before us to the south, shelving downwards, on the west towards Antium and the Mediterranean, and on the east towards the plain of Latium. Here it presents Tusculum in white lines on its declivity ; there it exhibits the long ridge that overhangs its lake ; once the site of Alba Longa, and towering boldly in the centre, with an hundred towns and villas on its sides, it terminates in a point, once crowned with the triumphal temple of Jupiter Latialis. Turning eastward, we beheld the Tibertine hills, with Tiber reclining on their sides ; and behind, still more to the east, the Sabine mountains, enclosed by the Apennines, which at the varying distance of from forty to sixty miles, swept round to the

east and north, forming an immense and bold boundary of snow. The Montes Crinini, and several lesser hills, diverging from the Pater Apenninus, the great parent ridge, continue the chain, till it nearly reaches the sea, and forms a perfect theatre. Mount Soracte, thirty miles to the north, lifts his head; an insulated, and therefore a striking feature. While the Tiber enriched by numberless rivers and streamlets, intersects the immense plain; and, bathing the temples and palaces of Rome, rolls, like the Po, a current unexhausted even during the scorching heats of summer. The tract now expanded before us, was the country of the Etrurians, the Latins, the Sabines, the Volscians, and other independent states and powers, which, in ancient days, surrounded the Roman territory: and which was, of course, the scene of the wars and exertions, of the victories and triumphs of infant Rome, during a period of nearly four hundred years of her history; a most interesting period: when she possessed and exercised every generous virtue; and established, on the basis of justice, wisdom, and fortitude, the foundations of her future empire.

As the traveller looks towards the regions once inhabited by these well known tribes, many an illustrious name, and many a noble achievement, must rise in his memory; reviving too at the same moment the recollection of his early studies, his boyish amusements, and most delightful days; and blending the friendships of his youth with the

memorials of ancient greatness. The day was cloudless ; the beams of the sun played over the landscape ; hues of light blue, intermingled with dark shades, deepening as they retired, chequered the mountains. A line of shining white snow marked the distant Apennines ; and a vault of the purest and brightest azure covered this glorious scene. We passed a long and delightful morning in its contemplation.

The following day was employed in wandering over the city at large, and taking a cursory view of some of its principal streets, squares, buildings, and monuments. This we did to satisfy the first cravings of curiosity.

We then proceeded to the Vatican and Pincian mounts, ranged over the Campus Martius, and along the banks of the river Tiber ; then wandered through the villas, both within and without the city ; and, finally, explored the churches, monuments, tombs, hills, and fields, in its immediate neighbourhood.

After having thus gratified ourselves with a general and some select views, and formed a tolerably accurate idea of the most striking features of Rome, we proceeded, on the fourth day, through the Il Corso, that is, through " streets of palaces and walks of state," to the Capitoline hill.

The Capitol was anciently both a fortress and a sanctuary. A fortress, surrounded with precipices, bidding defiance to all the means of attack employed in ancient times ; a sanctuary

crowded with altars and temples, the repository of the fatal oracles, the seat of the tutelar deities of the empire. Romulus began the grand work, and it was continued, during a long series of years, to its completion, which was with great solidity and magnificence.

It was burnt during the civil wars between Marius and Sylla, and rebuilt shortly after; but again destroyed by fire, in a dreadful contest that took place in the very Forum itself, and on the sides of the Capitoline mount. This event is lamented as the greatest disaster that had ever befallen the city. And, indeed, if we consider that the public archives, and of course the most valuable records of its history, were deposited there, we must allow that the catastrophe was peculiarly unfortunate, not to Rome only, but to the world at large. But the capitol rose once more from its ashes with redoubled splendour, and received, from the munificence of the Emperor Vespasian, and his son Domitian, its last and most glorious embellishments. The edifices, in site and destination, were probably nearly the same as before the conflagration; but more attention was paid to symmetry, to costliness, and above all, to grandeur and magnificence. The northern entrance led, under a triumphal arch, to the centre of the hill, and to the sacred grove, the asylum opened by Romulus, and almost the cradle of Roman power. To the right, on the eastern summit of the hill, stood the temple of

Jupiter Feretrius. To the left, on the western summit, was that of Jupiter Custos. Near each of these temples, were the fanes of inferior divinities; that of Fortune, and that of Fides, alluded to by Cicero. In the midst—to crown the pyramid formed by such an assemblage of majestic edifices, and at the same time to afford a becoming residence for the guardian of the empire, the father of gods and men—rose the temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, on a hundred steps, supported by a thousand pillars, adorned by all the refinements of art, and blazing with the plunder of the world. In the centre of the temple, with Juno on his left, and Minerva on his right side, the thunderer sat on a throne of gold, grasping the lightning in one hand, and in the other wielding the sceptre of the universe. Hither the consuls were conducted by the senate, to assume the military dress, and implore the favour of the gods, before they marched to battle. Hither the victorious generals used to repair in triumph, to suspend the spoils of conquered nations, present captive monarchs, and offer up hecatombs to Tarpeian Jove. Here, in cases of danger and distress, the senate was assembled, and the magistrates convened to deliberate, in the presence, and under the immediate influence of the tutelar gods of Rome. Here the laws were exhibited to public inspection, as if under the sanction of the divinity: and here also deposited, as if intrusted to his guardian care.

In the midst of these magnificent structures, of

this wonderful display of art and opulence, stood for many ages, the actual, the humble straw-roofed palace of Romulus, the founder of Rome: a monument of primitive simplicity, dear and venerable in the eyes of the Romans. This cottage, it may easily be supposed, vanished in the first conflagration. But not the cottage only, the temple, the tower, the palace also that once surrounded it, have disappeared. Of all the ancient glory of the capitol, nothing now remains but the solid foundation, and vast substructions raised on the rock.

Not only is the capitol fallen, but, in modern times, its very name, expressive of dominion, and once fondly considered as an omen of empire, is now almost lost in its present semi-barbarous appellation of Campidoglio.

At present the Capitoline Mount is covered with buildings, far inferior, without doubt, to the imperial edifices above described, but yet of grand proportions, and vast magnitude. The northern still the principal entrance, is an easy ascent, adorned with a marble balustrade commencing below, with two immense lionesses, of Ægyptian porphyry, pouring a torrent of water into spacious basins of marble, and terminated above by statues of Castor and Pollux, each holding his horse. Here you enter the square, in the centre of which stands the well known equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius. In front, and on each side, are three extensive buildings, erected by Michael

Angelo. The edifice before you, of bold elevation, adorned with Corinthian pilasters, and a lofty tower, is the palace of the senator. A double flight of marble steps leads to its portal. In the centre of this staircase stands the genius of Rome, like Minerva, armed with the ægis, and leaning on her spear. A fountain bursts forth at her feet. On her right the Tiber, on her left the Nile, lay reclined, each on its urn. The French, during the revolutionary wars, carried off the two latter statues, with some other ornaments of the Capitoline square. In the palace of the senator, and in that of the Conservatori, are several halls and apartments, magnificent in their size and decorations. It is to be observed, that the capitol is the palace of the Roman people, the seat of their power, and residence of their magistracy. The statues and other antiques, placed here by the Popes, are dedicated, in the names of the donors, to the Roman people; and the inscriptions, in general, run in the ancient style. Nor is it unworthy of its destination. The beauty of its architecture, the magnitude of its apartments, the excellence of its paintings, and the prodigious number of statues and antiques, with which it is decorated, give it a splendour unequalled in any other capitol, and only eclipsed, even in Rome itself, by the recollection of its former greatness.

The Museum Capitolinum contains, in several large rooms, a most splendid collection of busts, statues, sarcophagi, &c. bestowed by different

Popes and illustrious personages on this magnificent cabinet, devoted to the use of the Roman people, or rather of the literary and curious of all nations. One of the most interesting objects in this collection, is an ancient plan of Rome, cut in marble, once part of the pavement of a temple in the forum, and thence transferred to the capitol, where it lines the walls of one of the grand staircases of the museum. But unfortunately it is not entire; if it were, we should have a most perfect plan of ancient Rome; the streets, forums, temples, &c. being marked out in the most distinct manner. There are, moreover, in the palace of the Conservatory, galleries of paintings, and halls appropriated to the use of young artists, where lectures are given, and drawings taken from life; premiums are also bestowed publicly in the grand hall in the senator's palace. In short, the capitol is now consecrated, not, as of old, to the tutelary gods of Rome, but to her arts, to the remains of her grandeur, to the monuments of her genius, and, I may add, to her titles---now the mere semblance of her ancient liberty.

The highest and most conspicuous part of the Capitoline Mount is, however, occupied by a building in an inferior taste, the church and convent of Ara Cœli. The ascent from the plain below, by an hundred and twenty-four marble steps, deserves a better termination than its miserable portal; and the various ancient pillars of Ægyptian granite, that adorn the nave of the

church and the portico of the cloisters, furnish a sufficient quantity of the best materials for the erection and dedication of a very noble edifice.

Anciently there were two ways from the capitol to the forum; both parted from the neighbourhood of the Tabularium, and diverging as they descended, terminated each in a triumphal arch; that of Tiberius to the west, that of Severus to the east. Of these arches the latter only remains; the triumphal arch of Septimus is nearly half buried in the ground,

CHAPTER XI.

*Splendour of the Roman Forum.---The Coliseum.
The palace of Imperial Rome.---Burying Place.
The extraordinary extent and grandeur of the
Roman baths.---The baths of Caracalla.--Neros'
Palace.---The Temple of the Sun.---The Cam-
pus Martius.---The venerable Pile of the Pan-
theon.---The Trajan Pillar.---Bridges.---The
great Circus.---Causes of the Destruction and
Disappearance of such vast Edifices.*

THE Roman Forum now lay extended before us, a scene, in the ages of Roman greatness, of unparalleled splendour and magnificence. It was bordered on both sides with temples, and lined with statues. It terminated in triumphal arches; and was bounded, on one side, by the Palatine hill, with the imperial residence glittering on its summit; and, on the other, by the capitol, with its ascending ranges of porticos and temples. It presented perhaps one of the richest exhibitions that eyes could behold, or human ingenuity invent. In the midst of these superb monuments, the memorials of their greatness, the Roman people assembled to exercise their sovereign power, and to decide the fate of nations.

This scene of magnificence is now, however, a chaos of ruins. Here and there an insulated column stands, in the midst of broken shafts, vast

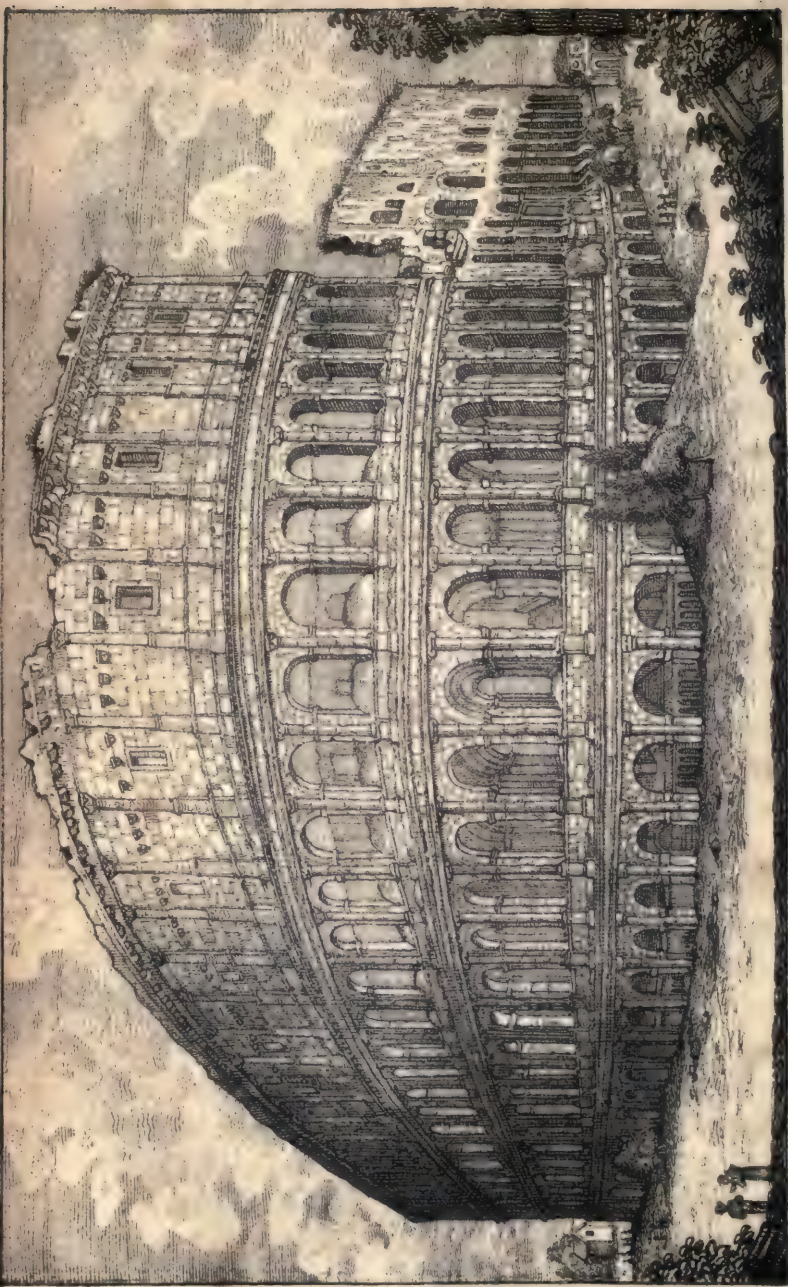
fragments of marble capitals and cornices, heaped together in masses, rise to remind the melancholy traveller, that the lonely field he now traverses, was once the Roman Forum.

A little farther on commences a double range of trees, that leads along the Via Sacra, by the temples of Antoninus and of Peace, to the arch of Titus. A herdsman, seated on a pedestal while his oxen were drinking from a marble fountain, and a few passengers, moving at a distance in different directions, were the only living beings that disturbed the silence and solitude which reigned around. Thus the place seemed restored to its original wildness, and abandoned once more to flocks and herds of cattle. So far, in fact, have the modern Romans forgotten the theatre of the glory and imperial power of their ancestors, as to degrade it into a common market for cattle, and sink its name,---illustrated by every page of Roman history---into the contemptible appellation of Campo Vaccino.

Proceeding along the Via Sacra, we passed under the arch of Titus; but now a mere mass of ruin, insulated walls, immense stones suspended in the air, arches covered with weeds and shrubs, vaults opening upon other ruins; in short, above, below, and around, one vast collection of magnificence and devastation, of grandeur and decay.

This stupendous fabric was erected by the emperors Vespasian and Titus, out of part only of the





Engraving by J. G. Thompson

The Colosseum at Rome.

W. H. W. & Co. 1841

materials, and on a portion of the site of Nero's golden house, which had been demolished by order of Vespasian, as too sumptuous even for a Roman emperor. The Coliseum, owing to the solidity of its materials, survived the era of barbarism, and was so perfect in the thirteenth century, that games were exhibited in it, not for the amusement of the Romans only, but to all the nobility of Italy. The destruction of this wonderful fabric is interesting. When Rome began to revive, and architecture arose from its ruins, every rich and powerful citizen wished to have, not a commodious dwelling merely, but a palace. The Coliseum was an immense quarry at hand; the common people stole, the grandees obtained permission to carry off, its materials, till the interior was gradually dismantled, and the exterior half stripped of its ornaments.

Benedict xiv. however a pontiff of great judgment, stayed the depredations, by erecting a cross in the centre of the era, and declared it sacred. The remains were thus protected, and are transmitted to us in their present state. We next passed under the arch of Constantine: this is the only one that remains entire, with its pillars, statues, and basso relievos, all of the most beautiful marble, and some of excellent workmanship. They are taken from the arch of Trajan, which was stripped, or demolished, by order of the senate, for that purpose.

We then ascended the Palatine Mount. This

hill, the nursery of infant Rome, and finally the residence of Imperial grandeur, presents now two solitary villas and a convent with their deserted gardens and vineyards. Its numerous temples, its palaces, its porticos and its libraries, once the glory of Rome and the admiration of the universe, are now mere heaps of ruins.

The west side of the Aventine looks down on the Tiber, and on the fields called Prati del Popolo Romano. These meadows are planted with mulberry trees, and adorned with the pyramidal tomb of Caius Cestius. This ancient monument remains entire, an advantage which it owes partly to its form, well calculated to resist the influence of the weather, and partly to its situation, as it is joined to the walls of the city, and forms part of the fortification. It stands on a base, about ninety feet square, and rises about a hundred and twenty in height. It is formed or covered with large blocks of white marble: a door in the base opens into a gallery terminating in a small room, which is ornamented with paintings on the stucco, in regular compartments. In this chamber of the dead, once stood a sarcophagus that contained the remains of Cestius.

None but foreigners, excluded by their religion from the cemeteries of the country are deposited here; and of these foreigners, several were English. The far greater part had been cut off in their prime, by unexpected disease, or fatal accident. What a scene for a traveller!

far remote from home, and liable himself to similar disasters. Turning from these fields of death, and repassing the Aventine hill, we came to the baths of Antoninus Caracalla. No monument of ancient architecture is calculated to inspire such an idea of Roman magnificence, as the ruins of their baths.

To give the untravelled reader some notion of these prodigious piles, I will confine my observations to the latter, as the greatest in extent, and as the best preserved; for though it be entirely stript of its pillars, statues, and ornaments, both external and internal, yet its walls still stand, and its principal apartments are evidently distinguishable. The length of the bath was one thousand eight hundred and forty feet; its breadth, one thousand four hundred and seventy-six. At each end were two temples, one to Apollo, and another to Esculapius, as the tutelar divinities of a place sacred to the improvement of the mind and the care of the body. The two other temples were dedicated to Hercules and Bacchus. In the principal building were, in the first place, a grand circular vestibule, with four halls on each side, for cold, tepid, warm, and steam baths; in the centre was an immense square, for exercise, when the weather was unfavourable to it in the open air; beyond it, a great hall, where sixteen hundred marble seats were placed for the convenience of the bathers: at each end of this hall were libraries

This building terminated on both sides in a court surrounded with porticos, with an odeum for music, and in the middle a capacious bason for the practice of swimming. Round this edifice were walks, shaded by rows of trees, and in its front extended a gymnasium, for running, wrestling, &c. in fine weather. The whole was bounded by a vast portico, opening into spacious halls, where the poets declaimed, and philosophers gave their lectures to their auditors. This immense fabric was adorned, within, and without, with pillars, stucco work, paintings, and statues.

Descending the Cœlian hill, we crossed the Sabrura, the abode of the great and opulent Romans, but now merely two long streets, lined with dead walls, and covered with a few straggling houses and solitary convents.

Proceeding over the Esquiline mount, we stopped at the baths of Titus, an edifice of unusual extent and magnificence, though on a smaller scale than those of Caracalla. Towards the extremity of the Esquiline, and not far from the Porta Maggiore, in a vineyard, stands a ruined edifice, called the temple of Minerva Medica. And in its neighbourhood was formerly a palace, from the top of which, or from a tower in the garden, Nero is said to have contemplated and enjoyed the dreadful spectacle of Rome in flames.

From the hills we descended to the Campus Martius, which in the early ages of the republic

was an open field devoted to military exercises, and well calculated for that purpose, by its level grassy surface, and the neighbourhood of the river winding along its border.

We next proceeded to that elevated site, which branches into the Viminal and Quirinal hills ; on this stands one of the grandest remains of ancient splendour, a considerable portion of the baths of Dioclesian, now converted into a convent of Carthusians.

The Viminal hill has no remnant of ancient magnificence to arrest attention in the progress to the Quirinal, once adorned with the temple of Quirinus, whence it derived its name. We may easily suppose that a temple dedicated to the founder of Rome, must have been a structure of unusual magnificence ; and we find accordingly, that a noble flight of marble steps conducted to its portal, and that it was supported by seventy-six lofty columns. It stood on the brow of the hill, and in such a site must have made a most majestic and splendid appearance. But on the opposite side, and commanding the Campus Martius, rose the Temple of the Sun, erected by Aurelian ; and if we may judge of the building by the accounts given of it, it exceeded in grandeur and decorations all other Roman edifices. The pillars, which appear to have been of the purest marble, of the richest order, and of an immense size and height, and the temple of vast dimensions, must have produced alto-

gether a most dazzling and gorgeous spectacle. But not a trace of either of these noble and interesting edifices remains !

Of the surviving edifices of Rome, the principal is the Pantheon itself. The Pantheon retains its majestic portico, and presents its graceful dome uninjured : the pavement laid by Agrippa, and trodden by Augustus, still forms its floor ; the compartments and fluted pillars of the richest marble, that originally lined its walls, still adorn its inward circumference ; the deep tints that age has thrown over it only contribute to raise its dignity and augment our veneration ; and the traveller enters its portal, through which twice twenty generations have flowed in succession, with a mixture of awe and religious veneration. Yet the Pantheon itself has greatly suffered during eighteen centuries. The flight of steps that conducted to its threshold, the marbles that clothed it, the statues that graced its cornice ; the bronze that blazed on its dome that vaulted its portico, and formed its sculpture doors ; and the silver that lined the compartments of its roof within, and dazzled the spectator with its brightness ; all have disappeared. The rapacity and the avarice of succeeding ages of barbarians continued to strip it of these splendid decorations and time, by levelling many a noble structure in its neighbourhood, has raised the pavement, and deprived it of all the advantages of situation. The two celebrated pillars of Antoninus and Trajan

stand each in its square, but they also have lost several feet of their original elevation ; and the colonnade or portico that enclosed the latter, supposed to be the noblest structure of the kind ever erected, has long since sunk in the dust, and its ruins probably lie buried under the foundations of the neighbouring houses. Seven bridges formerly conducted over the Tiber to the Janiculum and Vatican Mount : of these the most remarkable were the first, the Pons Elius ; and the last, the Pons Sublicius ; the former, erected by Adrian, opened a grand communication from the Campus Martius to his mausoleum. It still remains under the appellation of Ponte St. Angelo ; the statues that adorned its balustrade disappeared at an early period, and have since been replaced by statues of St. Peter and St. Paul, and of several angels, executed by eminent masters, and considered beautiful. The ancient statues were probably thrown into the Tiber, and may probably at some future period be recovered from its channel. The Pons Sublicius lay much lower, and formed a passage from the Aventine Mount to the Janiculum. Though consecrated by its antiquity, for it was the first bridge built at Rome ; and still more by the heroic exploit of Horatius Cœles, who singly defended it against a whole army ; it has long since fallen. The edifices just alluded to, and a thousand others equally calculated to resist the depredations of time, and the usual means

of artificial destruction, have thus sunk into utter annihilation. This is to be accounted for by various reasons ; first the barbarians who took and sacked Rome, had its plunder, not its destruction in view ; and that they warred with the power and the opulence, not with the taste and the edifices of the Romans. Gold and silver, brass and precious stones, cloth and articles of apparel, with furniture of every sort, were the objects of their rapacity : the persons also of the unfortunate Romans, whom they could either sell or employ as slaves, were considered a valuable part of their booty ; in collecting the former, and securing the latter, their attention was fully occupied, nor had they leisure, supposing that they had the inclination, during the short space of time they occupied the city, (confined to six days the first, and fourteen the second time the city was taken) to demolish, or even materially disfigure the solidity of the public edifices. The massive roof of the capitol, formed of brass, and it seems lined with gold, and the bronze covering and sculptured portals of the Pantheon, were torn from their respective temples by them ; but the edifices themselves were spared, and the latter still remains, to show how little damage its essential form suffered in the disaster.

In the pillage of Rome by the Goths and Vandals, sacred statues, when of precious metals, such as gold, silver, or brass, were not spared ; but the shrine only, or perhaps the furniture and

decorations of the temple, of similar materials, and of course equally calculated to attract the hand of rapacity, were violated, while the edifices themselves were respected. Among the causes of ruin, we may also safely rank the indifference and neglect of government; nay, we have even some reason to suspect that the emperors not only neglected the reparation, but sometimes hastened the fall of public structures. Each sovereign was ambitious of distinguishing his reign by some magnificent fabric, by erecting baths, or a circus, a portico, or a forum; and they were not always delicate as to the places whence the materials were taken, and sometimes stripped the monuments of their predecessors of their ornaments, in order to employ them in decorating their new edifices. Certain it is, that some emperors, while they were adding to the splendour of the city on one side, made no difficulty of plundering it on the other.

When Rome ceased to be free, the forum, (the seat of popular deliberations) became useless, and fell into decay at an early period. The destruction of Rome has, therefore, arisen from the neglect of emperors, the indifference of magistrates, the rapacity of individuals, the rage of contesting factions, and the impoverishment of the city; to which if we add, the silent stroke of mouldering time, we shall have the list of destruction complete. The few edifices that still survive, owe their existence either to the pro-

tecting hand of religion, that warded off, or to their own solidity which defied, the blow levelled at their majestic forms by age or indifference.

The columns of Trajan and Antoninus stand most magnificent examples. These superb columns are of the same materials, the finest white marble, of nearly the same height, about one hundred and twenty feet, and of the same decorations; a series of sculpture, winding in a spiral line from the base to the capital, representing the wars and triumphs of the two emperors. They formerly supported each a colossal statue of Trajan and Antoninus: these have long since disappeared, and St. Peter and St. Paul have been substituted in their stead, though very improperly, as the bloody scenes and profane sacrifices portrayed on the shafts beneath, are ill adapted to the character and pacific virtues of these apostles. However, notwithstanding the impropriety of the situation, the picturesque effect is the same, especially as the modern statues are probably of the same size, and, if we may judge by medals, placed in the same attitude as the ancient.

Of the rich materials employed in the statues, pillars and decorations of this vast scene of grandeur, the bronze has always been an object of plunder, or of theft, and of course equally coveted by the rapacious barbarians and the impoverished Romans. It was therefore diligently sought for, and consequently soon disappeared.

[Of the superb marble pillars, some were transported by Charlemagne beyond the Alps, and thousands have been employed in the churches and palaces of the modern city. In reality, ancient Rome has been for twelve centuries a quarry of the most valuable building materials, ever open, and never exhausted ; yet notwithstanding the waste and havoc of these materials, I am inclined to think that the far greater portion still remains buried amidst the ruins, or entombed under the edifices of the modern city. The ancient pavement of the forum is well known to exist about fourteen feet under the present level, and several of the baths remain still unopened. The portico of Trajan lies near twenty feet under the foundations of modern churches and convents. What treasures of art may not be contained in these mines, hitherto unexplored ! What beautiful forms of sculpture and architecture may still slumber in this immense cemetery of ancient magnificence ! Should the Roman government, when the present convulsions shall have subsided into tranquillity, acquire energy and means adequate to such an undertaking, it may perhaps turn its attention to an object so worthy of it, and the classic traveller may entertain fond hope, that the veil which has so long concealed the beauties of the ancient city, may be in part removed, and some grand features of Roman magnificence once more exposed to view. At least, the materials of many a noble structure

may reappear, many a long fallen column be taught again to seek the skies, and many a god and many a hero emerge from darkness, once more ascend their lofty pedestals, and challenge the admiration of future generations. But, in the present state of thraldoms in which Italy crouches, when and by what interference these pleasing hopes may be realized, it is difficult, if not impossible to determine.





DISTANT VIEW OF ROME.

Engraved by W. Read.

CHAPTER XII.

*Description of modern Rome.---Its Population.---
State of its Streets---Squares---Fountains---
Tombs.---The Castle of St. Angelo.---Palaces
of the Popes.---Palace of the Vatican.---Prin-
cipal Church.*

THE modern city, as the reader must have already observed, possesses many features of ancient Rome. The same roads lead to her gates from the extremities of Italy; the same aqueducts pour the same streams into her fountains; the same great churches that received the masters of the world in ancient times, are still open to their descendants. Within the same circumference, modern Rome lies extended, principally on the plain, and scattered thinly over the hills, bordered by villas, gardens, and vineyards. Its population is reduced, but its streets are well built, and well paved; narrower in general than those in London, but wider than those in Paris; but as the houses are not too high, they are light and airy, often very long and straight, and not unfrequently terminating with an obelisk, a fountain, or a church. Such are the three streets which diverge from the Piazza del Popolo; the Corso terminating at the foot of the capitol; the Strada del Babouino

ending in the Piazzo de Spagna, and the Strada de Ripetta leading to the Tiber:

The houses are of stone, but plastered, as at Vienna, Berlin, and other transalpine cities; the plaster, or rather stucco, is extremely hard, and in a climate so dry, may equal stone in solidity and duration. Hence its general use in Italy, and its reputation even among the ancients.

Without entering into details, I shall premise, in order to give the reader a general idea of modern Rome, that it contains forty-six squares, five monumental pillars, ten obelisks, thirteen fountains, twenty-two mausoleums, one hundred and fifty palaces, and three hundred and forty-six churches! Of these objects most have some peculiar feature, some appropriate beauty, to attract the attention of the traveller.

Three only of the ancient aqueducts now remain to supply modern Rome, and yet such is the quantity they convey, and so pure the sources whence they derive it, that no city can boast of such a profusion of clear and salubrious water. It is related that such a quantity of water was introduced into the ancient city, that whole rivers seemed to flow through the streets, and down the sewers, so that every house had its pipes and cisterns, sufficient to furnish a copious and perpetual supply. The modern Romans have shewn equal taste and spirit in this respect, and deserve a just eulogium, not only for having procured an abundance of water, but for the

splendid and truly imperial stile in which it is poured forth for public use in the different quarters of the city.

The Castle of St. Angelo deserves particular notice, as well by its singular grandeur and commanding position, as its remarkable origin and progress to its present state. The Emperor Adrian, who delighted in architecture and magnificence, determined to erect a mausoleum, which from its size and solidity, should surpass all existing edifices of that nature. He selected for its site a spot on the opposite bank of the river at the foot of the Vatican Mount ; where on a vast quadrangular platform of solid stone, he raised a lofty circular edifice, surrounded by a Corinthian portico, supported by forty-eight pillars of a beautiful kind of white marble, tinged with purple. The continuation of the inner wall formed a second story above, adorned with Ionic pilasters, a dome surmounted by a cone of brass, crowned the whole fabric, and gave to it the appearance of a vast and most majestic temple. To encrease its splendour, four statues occupied the intervals between the columns ; an equal number rose above the entablature, and a proportionable series of them occupied the niches of the second story between the pilasters. The whole fabric was cased with marble, and the statues were the works of the best masters ; and this monument was considered as the noblest sepulchral edifice

ever erected, and one of the proudest ornaments of Rome, even when she shone in her imperial magnificence. Yet the date of its glory was transitory. The hand of time daily defaced its ornaments, and the military skill of Belisarius turned it into a temporary fortress. The constant necessity of such a commanding situation became daily more visible, and the government saw the necessity of securing a permanent post, commanding the river, and which from its internal solidity might defy all the ancient means of assault. The parts, therefore, that remain of it, are such as were adapted for this purpose ; in the course of time various bastions, ramparts, and outworks, have been added to the original building, several houses for soldiers, provisions, magazines, &c. are raised around, and some very considerable edifices containing spacious apartments, erected in the solid mass of the sepulchre itself. It takes its present name, Castel S. Angelo, from its destination, (for it is in fact the citadel of Rome) and from a bronze statue, of an angel standing with extended wings, on its summit.

The ordinary residence of the Pope is chosen for the loftiness and salubrity of its situation, and is called the Quirinal Palace, or Monte Cavallo. Its exterior presents two long fronts, plain and unadorned ; the court within is about three hundred and fifty feet long, and near two hundred wide. A broad and lofty portico runs along it on every side, and terminates in a grand

staircase, conducted to the Papal apartments, to the gallery and the chapel, all on a grand scale, and adorned with fine paintings. In the furniture and other decorations the style is simple and uniform, and such as seems to become the grave, unostentatious character of a christian prelate. The square before this palace is remarkable for an Egyptian obelisk erected in it by the late Pope, and still more for two statues, each representing a horse held by a young man; these stand on each side of the obelisk, and give the hill its appellation of Monte Cavallo. They are of colossal size and exquisite beauty; are supposed to represent Castor and Pollux, although the inscription says Alexander and Bucephalus; they are acknowledged to be the works of some great Grecian master. They were transported by the Emperor Constantine from Alexandria, and erected in his baths, which stood in the neighbourhood; whence they were conveyed by one of the Popes to their present situation.

The Vatican hill retains its ancient appellation, and gives it to the Palace and Church which adorn its summit and declivity. The Vatican is now the peaceful theatre of some of the most majestic ceremonies of the pontifical court:--- it is the repository of the records of ancient science, and the temple of the arts of Greece and Rome. Under these three heads, it commands the attention of every traveller of curiosity, taste and information. Its extent is im-

mense, and covers a space of twelve hundred feet in length, and a thousand in breadth. Its elevation is proportionate, and the number of apartments it contains is almost incredible. Galleries and porticos sweep around and through it, in all directions, and open an easy access to every quarter. Its halls and saloons are all on a great scale, and by their magnitude and loftiness alone give an idea of magnificence truly Roman. The grand entrance is from the portico of St. Peter's by the Scala Regia, the most superb staircase perhaps in the world, consisting of four flights of marble steps, adorned with a double row of marble Ionic pillars. This staircase springs from the equestrian statue of Constantine, which terminates the portico on one side; and whether seen thence, or viewed from the gallery leading on the same side to the colonnade, forms a perspective of singular beauty and grandeur. This staircase conducts to the regal hall, a room of great length and elevation, which communicates by six large folding doors with as many other apartments. The space over the doors, and the intervals between, are occupied by pictures in fresco, representing various events, considered as honourable or advantageous to the Roman see.

The library of the Vatican Palace is interesting, and of great value, both as regards the number of volumes it contains, their antiquity and rarity, and the various other relics and



RHODES, WITH THE COLOSSUS AS IT FORMERLY STOOD.

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curiosities which are preserved there. Seven interpreters or secretaries are in attendance, who speak the principal languages of Europe, for the accommodation of learned foreigners. A double gallery, of two hundred and twenty feet in length, opens into a second gallery of eight hundred feet long! This immense range has a vast number of rooms, cabinets, and apartments of various descriptions, annexed, for the reception of the noble collection, which has been estimated to amount to more than a million of volumes. But the real superiority of this library arises not so much from this quantity of printed books, but the multitude and the rarity of its manuscripts, which are said to amount to an hundred thousand. Some of these are of the highest antiquity.

One of the apartments which opens from the gallery cannot be passed over without notice; it is consecrated to the monuments of christian antiquity, and contains a singular and unparelled collection of instruments of torture employed in the ages of persecution.

The Museum is also of great extent and magnificence; it consists of a great number of noble apartments, of grand dimensions and embellishment, in which are preserved a vast collection of admirable antiques, which from their beauty, their rarity, intrinsic value, as well as the mode of arrangement, form perhaps the most magni-

ficient and grand combination that has been ever beheld, or can almost be imagined.

A spacious court is filled with ancient statues, of exquisite execution, of various animals ; and this opens into an extensive gallery, lined on both sides with the finest statues of antiquity of the human form. This gallery terminates in three apartments, which are filled with the most beautiful and valuable busts of antiquity, which are placed on stands of ancient workmanship, and generally of the most beautiful and curious marble. Another extensive building is devoted to the reception of colossal statues ; others contain beautiful collections of vases, columns, Egyptian figures, tablets, tombs, tripods, &c. which have been discovered since the other apartments were filled. Such is in part the famed Museum of the Vatican, which in the extent, multiplicity, and beautiful disposition of the apartments and their contents, far surpasses every edifice of the kind, eclipses the splendour of the gallery of Florence, once its rival, and scorns comparison with those of Paris, which by the lawless right of conquest have been decorated with the plunder of the Vatican.

The account of this celebrated palace, although necessarily brief, and confined only to a few of the principal objects, will yet abundantly show the worthy objects of Her Royal Highness's taste and enquiry, and their vast extent and variety

The churches of modern Rome form its peculiar glory, as the temples seem to have been the principal ornaments of the ancient city.

The church of St. Clement is the most ancient church in Rome. It is built in a beautifully simple style of architecture, and abounds with pillars of much elegance ; it is altogether admirable for its beauty of perspective, and the convenience of public worship.

The churches of St. Martino, St. Andrea, and St. Cecilia, are remarkable for their beauty [and decoration, and may indeed be considered the most exquisite specimens of magnificence in this class of building to be found in Rome.

The church of St. Pietro is very ancient, and is chiefly remarkable for the famous painting of the Transfiguration, by Raphael, and supposed to be the most valuable picture in the world. It was seized by the French during the war of the revolution.

The Pantheon was first converted into a church in the year 609, and has since that time enjoyed the patronage and attention of various pontiffs. Twenty ages have rolled over this venerable fabric, and have gradually stripped it of its ornaments, its brilliant decorations and glossy colours, but have left it all its primeval proportions. It must not be forgotten that the Pantheon probably owes its preservation to the circumstance of its having been converted into a church.

On the Via Tiburtina stands the church of

St. Lawrence, erected over his tomb by Constantine. Under the altar is the tomb of St. Lawrence, where his body reposes, as is related, with that of St. Stephen the first martyr; it is beautifully inlaid and incrustcd with the most precious marble.

From the Porta Tiburtina, a long and straight street or road, leads almost in a direct line to the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, which derives the latter part of its appellation from its size and magnificence, as being the first that bears the name of the Blessed Virgin. It is said to have been founded about the year 350, and has undergone many repairs and alterations since that period. It is one of the noblest churches in the world, and well deserves an epithet of distinction.

This celebrated church contains a chapel belonging to the Borghese family, which is most profusely decorated; indeed the spectator is astonished at the profusion with which, not bronze and marble only, but lapis-lazuli, jasper, and the more precious stones, are employed on all sides, so that the walls seem to blaze around, and almost dazzle the eyes with their lustre.

From this a long and wide street leads to the church of St. John. This church is the regular cathedral of the bishop of Rome, and assumes the priority of all others, and the pompous title of the Parent and Mother of all churches. It was founded by Constantine, but burnt, ruined,

rebuilt, and frequently since repaired. Its magnitude corresponds with its rank and antiquity, and the richness of its decorations are equal to both. A wide and straight road leads from this building, through a solitary grove, to the church of the Holy Cross; another patriarchal church erected by Constantine on the ruins of a temple of Venus and Cupid, destroyed by his orders. This church derives its name from some pieces of the holy cross, and a quantity of earth taken from Mount Calvary, and deposited in it by St. Helena, Constantine's mother. The patriarchal church of St. Paul is one of the grandest temples erected by the first christian emperor. Such was the respect which the public entertained for this church, and so great the crowds that flocked to it, that it appears the emperor thought it necessary to build a portico from the gate to the church, a distance of nearly a mile. The magnificence of this portico seems to have equalled the most celebrated works of the ancient Romans, as it was supported by marble pillars, and covered with gilt copper.

I shall close this account of Roman churches by a description of St. Peter's, and an account of some of the glories of this unrivalled building, the boast of modern skill, and of the united arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture. The church of St. Peter was the first and noblest religious edifice erected by Constantine. It stood on part of the Circus of Nero, and was supposed

to occupy a spot consecrated by the blood of numberless martyrs exposed or slaughtered in that place of public amusement by order of the tyrant; but its principal and exclusive advantage was the possession of *the body of St. Peter*, a circumstance which raised it to the highest degree of consideration. Princes and emperors visited this sanctuary with devotion, and even kissed, as they approached, the marble steps that led to its portal. About the year 1450, Nicolas V. conceived the project of taking down the old church, and erecting in its stead a new and more extensive structure. The work was begun, but nearly three hundred years elapsed, and five and thirty pontiffs reigned, from the period of the commencement to that of the termination of this stupendous fabric. To calculate the expense with any great precision would be difficult, but from the best information that has been collected on the subject, however enormous the sum may seem, the expenditure appears to have amounted to at least *twelve millions sterling*. The reader will no doubt be astonished to learn, that during the wars of the French revolution, this incomparable edifice was estimated: in the language of commerce, its gold, silver, bronze, and marbles, were *appraised* by a company of Jews, by order of the French, with a view to sell those valuables to the highest bidder! But Providence seemed to interpose, before this work of barbarism could be com-

menced; the French army, alarmed by the approach of the Allies, retired with precipitation, and St. Peter's stands!! From the bridge and Castle of St. Angelo, a wide street conducts in a direct line to a square, and that square presents at once the court or portico, and part of the church. When the spectator approaches the entrance of this court, he views four ranges of lofty pillars, sweeping off to the right and left in a bold semicircle. In the centre of the area formed by this immense colonnade, an Egyptian obelisk of one solid piece of granite ascends to the height of one hundred and thirty feet; two perpetual fountains, one on each side, play in the air, and fall in sheets round the immense basons of porphyry that receive them. Before him, raised on three successive flights of marble steps, extending four hundred feet in length, and towering to the height of one hundred and eighty, he beholds the majestic front of the church itself. This front is supported by a single row of Corinthian pillars and pilasters, and adorned with an attic, a balustrade, and thirteen colossal statues. Far behind, and above it, rises the matchless dome, the justly celebrated *wonder of Rome, and of the world*. The colonnade of coupled pillars, that surrounds and strengthens its vast base, the graceful attic that surmounts this colonnade, the bold and expansive swell of the dome itself, and the pyramid seated on a cluster of columns, and bearing the ball and cross to the

skies, all perfect in their kind, form the most magnificent and singularly grand exhibition that the human eye perhaps ever contemplated. Two lesser cupolas, one on each side, partake of the state and add not a little to the majesty of the principal dome.

The roof is accessible by so convenient a staircase, that even beasts of burden may ascend it. When arrived there, we conceive ourselves in a new city, so great is the number of domes, besides the large one, steeples, galleries, and staircases. The statues on the top of the balustrade, which, seen from below, look like dolls, now appear like so many colossal figures. But that which creates the greatest surprise is the great dome, its surprising firmness and security, which are only to be fully perceived from this place. Convenient steps between the inner and outer arch lead to the lantern, from which you may ascend into the ball, where there is space for sixteen persons. An iron ladder outside leads to the top of the cross above the ball, but this is only sealed by very bold adventurers.

The portico or vestibule is of grand dimensions, and adorned with equestrian statues of Constantine and Charlemagne : the eye is charmed at every point of this view : but how great is the astonishment when we reach the foot of the altar, and, standing in the centre of the church, contemplate the four superb vistas that open around ; and then, raising the eyes to the dome

at the prodigious elevation of four hundred feet, extended like a firmament over head, and presenting in glowing Mosaic the companies of the just, the choirs of celestial spirits, and the whole hierarchy of heaven, arrayed in the presence of the Eternal, whose "throne high raised above all height," crowns the awful scene.

When the eye is feasted with the grandeur of this unparelled exhibition in the whole, it turns to the parts, the ornaments, and the furniture, which will be found perfectly corresponding with the magnificent form of the temple itself.

To conclude: in magnitude, elevation, opulence, and beauty, the church of St. Peter has no rival, and bears no comparison: in neatness, cleanliness, and convenience, so necessary to the advantageous display of magnificence, if any where equalled, it can no where be surpassed. It is cool in summer, and in winter dry and warm: its portals are ever open, and, unlike our own cathedral churches, the sacred character of the temple is not defiled by the clamorous demands of money; every visitant, whether attracted by devotion or curiosity, may range over it at leisure, and without molestation or notice, contemplate its beauties, or pour out his prayers before its altars. The only church which has been compared with St. Peter's, is St. Paul's in London. If the latter be, as in many respects it is, the second church in the world, yet it is

far inferior to the former, and cannot without absurdity be put upon a parallel with it; the size, proportion, and materials of the two edifices when compared, shew at one view how ill founded such a comparison must be.

	ST. PETER'S.	ST. PAUL'S.
Length	700 feet	500 feet.
Transept	500	250
Height	440	340
Breadth of the nave 90		60
Height of the nave 154		120

In fact, every edifice, whether in existence or on record only, of whatsoever denomination, falls far short, in some respects or other, of the church of St. Peter: it is the grand temple of the christian world; and to render it as worthy as possible of its high destination, human ingenuity seems to have strained its powers, and art to have exhausted its resources.

CHAPTER XIII.

Description of Divine Service, as performed by the Pope on high Festivals.—Grand Spectacle in St. Peter's on the night of Good Friday.—Temple of Romulus.—Circus of Caracalla.—Her Royal Highness leaves Rome for Naples.—Route, Vellatori—Pomptine Marshes—Terracina—Gaeta—Approach to Naples—Arrival at Naples.

WHEN the Pope celebrates divine service, as on Easter Sunday, Christmas Day, Whit Sunday, St. Peter and St. Paul, &c., the great or middle doors of the church are thrown open at ten, and the procession, formed of cardinals, deans, and the public officers, &c. preceded by a beadle carrying the papal cross, and two others bearing lighted torches, enters and advances slowly in two long columns, between two ranks of soldiers, up the nave. This majestic procession is closed by the pontiff himself, seated in a chair of state, supported by twenty valets, half concealed in the drapery that falls in loose folds from the throne; he is crowned with his tiara, and bestows his benediction on the crowds that kneel on all sides as he is borne along. When arrived at the foot of the altar, he descends, resigns his tiara, kneels, and assuming the common mitre, seats

himself in the episcopal chair on the right of the altar, and joins in the psalms and prayers that precede the solemn service. Towards the conclusion of the preparatory devotions, his immediate attendants form a circle around him, clothe him in his pontifical robes, and place the tiara on his head; after which, accompanied by two deacons, and two sub-deacons, he advances to the foot of the altar, and bowing reverently makes the usual confession. He then proceeds in great pomp through the chancel, and ascends the pontifical throne, while the choir sing the Introitus, or psalm of entrance, the Kyrie Eleison, and Gloria, when the pontiff again lays aside his tiara, and after having saluted the congregation in the usual form, "the Lord be with yon," reads the collect in an elevated tone of voice, with a degree of inflection just sufficient to distinguish it from an ordinary lecture. The epistle is then read, first in Latin, then in Greek; and after it some select verses from the Psalms, intermingled with Allelujahs, are sung, to elevate the mind, and prepare it for the gospel. The pontiff then rises, gives his benediction to the two deacons that kneel at his feet with the book of the gospels, and resigning his tiara, stands while the gospel is sung in Latin and in Greek, after which he commences the Nicene creed, which is continued in music by the choir. When the creed and the psalm that follows it are over, he descends from his throne, and approaching the altar, with the

same attendants and the same pomp as in the commencement of the service, he receives and offers up the usual oblations, fumes the altar with frankincense from a golden censer, and then washes his hands, a ceremony implying purity of mind and body : he then turns to the people, and in an humble and affectionate address begs their prayers, and shortly after commences that sublime form of adoration and praise, called in the Romish service the Preface, because it is an introduction to the most solemn part of the liturgy, and chants it in a tone supposed to be borrowed from the ancient tragic declamation, and very noble and impressive. The last words, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Armies," &c. are uttered in a posture of profound adoration, and sung by the choir in notes of deep and solemn intonation. All music then ceases ; all sounds are hushed, and an awful silence reigns around, while in a low tone the Pontiff recites that most ancient and venerable invocation which precedes, accompanies, and follows the consecration, and concludes with great propriety in the Lord's prayer, chanted with a few emphatical inflections. Shortly after the conclusion of this prayer, the pontiff salutes the people in the ancient form, "May the peace of the Lord be always with you," and returns to his throne, while the choir sing thrice the devout address to the Saviour, taken from the gospel, "Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us."

When he is seated, the two deacons bring the holy sacrament, which he first reveres humbly on his knees, and then receives in a sitting posture : the anthem after communion is sung, a collect follows, and the deacon dismisses the assembly.

The pope then offers up his devotions on his knees at the foot of the altar, and, borne along in the same state as when he entered, passes down the nave of the church, and ascends to the grand gallery in the middle of the front of St. Peter's. His immediate attendants surround his person, and the rest of the procession draws up on each side. The immense area and colonnade before the church are lined with troops, and crowded with thousands of spectators. All eyes are fixed on the gallery, the chant of the choirs is heard at a distance, the blaze of numberless torches plays around the columns, and the pontiff appears elevated on his chair of state under the middle arch. Instantly the whole multitude below fall on their knees, the cannon from St. Angelo give a general discharge, while the pope, rising slowly and majestically from his throne, lifts his hands towards heaven, stretches forth his arm, and thrice gives his benediction to the crowd, to the city, and to all mankind : a solemn pause follows, another discharge is heard, the crowd rises, and the pomp gradually disappears. This ceremony is without doubt exceeding grand, and considered by most travellers as a noble and becoming conclusion to the majestic service that

precedes it. The scene is both edifying and impressive.

I must not here pass over the well known exhibition that takes place in St. Peter's on the night of Good Friday, when the hundred lamps that burn over the tomb of the apostle are extinguished, and a stupendous cross of light appears suspended from the dome, between the altar and the nave, shedding over the whole edifice a soft lustre delightful to the eye, and highly favourable to picturesque representation. This grand and singular exhibition is supposed to have originated in the sublime imagination of Michael Angelo; and he who beholds it will acknowledge that it is not unworthy of the inventor. The magnitude of the cross, hanging as if self supported, and like a vast meteor streaming in the air; the blazing glory that it pours forth; the mixture of light and shade cast on the pillars, arches, statues, and altars; the vast crowd of anxious spectators placed in all the different attitudes of curiosity, wonder and devotion; the processions with their banners and crosses gliding successively in silence along the nave, and kneeling around the altar; the penitents, of all nations and dresses, collected in groups near the confessionals of their respective languages; a cardinal occasionally advancing through the crowd, and as he kneels humbly bending his head to the pavement; in fine, the pontiff himself, without pomp or pageantry, prostrate before the altar,

offering up his adorations in silence,---form a scene singularly striking and grand, at once simple and majestic.

Near the Forum, towards the Pomptine mount, there remains the solid wall of the Rostra, the temple of Romulus, raised on the spot where the twin brothers were exposed. And proceeding on the road we pass the ancient church of St. Sebastian, and shortly after come to the circus of Caracalla. This circus about two miles from the gates of Rome, presents such remnants of its ancient walls, as affords a clear notion of the different parts and arrangements of a circus. A considerable portion of the exterior, and in many places the vault that supported the seats, remain. The foundation of the two obelisks that terminated the division that ran lengthwise through the circus and formed the goals, still exists. Near the principal goal on one side, behind the benches, stands a tower where the judges sat. One of the extremities supported a gallery, which contained a band of musicians, and is flanked by two towers, whence the signal for starting was given. Its length is one thousand six hundred and two feet, its breadth two hundred and sixty : the length of the middle division is nine hundred and twenty-two. The distance from the end whence they started, to the first goal, was five hundred and fifty feet. There were seven ranges of seats, which contained about twenty-seven thousand persons. As justling, and every exertion of skill,

strength, or cunning, were allowed, the chariots were occasionally overturned, and, as the drivers had the reins tied round their bodies, several melancholy accidents took place. To remove the bodies of the charioteers bruised or killed in such exertions, a large gate was open in the side of the circus near the first goal, where such accidents were likeliest to take place, on account of the narrowness of the space; and this precaution was necessary, as the ancients deemed it a most portentous omen to go through a gate defiled by the passage of a dead body. On the end opposite the starting place, was a triumphal arch or grand gate, through which the victorious charioteer drove, amidst the shouts and acclamations of the spectators. There were six sets of drivers, each wearing a distinguishing colour, viz. white, red, blue, green, yellow, and purple, and each colour drove five rounds with fresh horses. There are stables therefore close to the circus, and in the centre of these stables a circular fabric, of at least seventy-two feet in diameter, with an open space around, enclosed by a high wall. This building was probably a riding school, and is supposed to have been crowned with a temple. . . . I shall here close my account of Rome, as at the present visit to it by Her Royal Highness. Indeed it were scarcely possible to specify every object of attraction; the views of rural beauty, and the remains of ancient grandeur, to be found in Rome, are numberless; the wonders

of modern art, and the monuments of ancient splendour, surround the traveller wherever he directs his observation.

Her Royal Highness now prepared for her departure for Naples: We reached the stage called the Torre de Mezzavin, and after changing horses we drove on to Albans. From Albans the road winds round the beautiful little valley of Aricia, formed by some of the lower ramifications of the Alban mount, and presented on the left a fine view of Albans and the neighbouring hills, all gilded by the rays of the sun. These glowing tints were set off to great advantage by the dark back-ground formed by the groves and evergreen forests that clothe the higher regions of the mountain. Night shortly after closed on us, and deprived us of several interesting views which we might have enjoyed from the lofty situation of the road, which still continued to run along the side of the hill. We arrived about twelve o'clock at Velletri, an ancient town, that still retains its former name and consideration, and was the birth-place of Augustus. Though it contains some considerable edifices, particularly palaces, yet it appears ill-built and gloomy. Its situation is however particularly fine.

The country through the two next stages is extremely green and fertile, presenting rich meadows, adorned with forest scenery, whose mild beauties form a striking contrast with the

harsh features of the bordering mountains. The village of Cisterna is lively and pleasing.

Here commences the famous Pomptine masrhes, and at the same time the excellent road formed through them on the under structure of the Ap-pian road. This road runs on an exact level, and in a straight line, for thirty miles. It is bordered on both sides by a canal, and shaded by double rows of elms and poplars. These fens were occasioned by the quantity of water carried into the plain by numberless streams that rise at the foot of the neighbouring mountains, and, for want of sufficient declivity, creep sluggishly over the level space, and sometimes stagnate in pools, or lose themselves in the sands. The flat and swampy tract spread from these lakes, formerly covered an extent of eight miles in breadth, and thirty in length, with mud and infection. The loss of so much fertile and valuable land, and the exhalations arising from such a vast tract of swamp, carried, not unfrequently to the capital itself, by the southernly winds, naturally attracted the attention of a people so active and industrious as the ancient Romans, and we accordingly find a continued series of laborious efforts to reduce them, during many centuries. The glory of finally terminating this grand undertaking, so often attempted and so often frustrated, was however reserved for the late pontiff, Pius vi. who, immediately on his elevation to the papal throne, turned his attention to the Pomptine

marshes. The great work was continued, with incredible ardour and vast expence, for the space of ten years, and at length crowned with complete success, and closed in the year 1788.—The draining of the Pomptine marshes is one of the most useful as well as most difficult works perhaps ever executed, and reflects lustre on the talent and industry which effected it. A short time before we crossed the Pomptine marshes, fine crops of corn had covered the country on our left, and extended to the very foot of the mountains; on the right numerous herds of cattle and horses were then grazing in extensive and luxuriant pastures. Between two and three miles from Terracina, a few paces from the road, a little ancient bridge crosses a streamlet issuing from the fountain of Feronia. The grove in which this goddess was supposed to delight, has long since fallen; one only solitary ilex hangs over the fountain. The temple has sunk into the dust, not even a stone remains! Yet had this goddess a better title to the veneration of the benevolent, than all the other profane deities together. She was supposed to delight in freedom, and to take slaves under her immediate protection; and they actually received their personal liberty by being seated in a certain chair in her temple.

The rocky eminence of Anxur, which now rose full before us, seemed to advance towards the sea, and as we approached, presented to our view a variety of steep cliffs. On the side of one

of these craggy hills stands the old town of Terracina, looking towards the marshes; the new town descends, gradually towards the beach, and lines the shore; it was considerably augmented by the late Pope, who built a palace, and resided there during the spring and autumn, in order to urge on his favourite undertaking. The situation of Terracina, reclining on the side of the mountain, and stretched along the shore, is very picturesque; its long lines of white edifices, and particularly the façade of the Pope's palace, give it a general appearance of magnificence. However, it possesses but few objects of curiosity. Five or six miles from Terracina, at the foot of a hill, in a defile, with the rock on one side and the sea on the other, stands a tower with a gate, forming the barrier between the Roman and Neapolitan territories: it is occupied by a few Neapolitan troops, the commander of which examines the passports. A little beyond the tower the mountains seem to recede; the country opens, and gradually expands into the fertile valley of Fondi. The Via Appia intersects it nearly in the middle. On the right, between the road and the sea, we beheld a fine expanse of water formed by several streams, which, falling from the mountains, cross the plain, and empty themselves in its bosom. Its borders, towards the road, are covered with myrtle, poplars, luxuriant shrubs, and flowers. It is separated from the sea by a forest; and indeed the whole is beautifully adorned with

orange and citron trees, interspersed with cypress and poplars. Fondi is a little town, consisting of one street on the Via Appia, which is here in its ancient form, that is, composed of large flags, fitted together with wonderful art, although in their natural shape, and without cement. With regard to the appearance of the town, I must observe, that two circumstances must necessarily give almost all southern towns a gloomy appearance; in the first place, the streets are generally narrow; and in the second, the windows are seldom glazed. These deformities, for such they are in our eyes, are the natural consequences of the climate, and prevailed in ancient as well as in modern Italy and Greece. We continued to roll over the broad flags of the Via Appia, and, descending a steep from Castellone, entered Mola in the evening. This town is in itself little and insignificant, but it derives interest, if not grandeur, from its beautiful site: it consists of one street, formed by the Via Appia on the side, at the foot of a range of broken picturesque hills and mountains covered with corn, vines and olive-trees, and topped with rocks, churches and towers. The waters that stream from these hills unite and gush forth in a fountain close to the town. The most conspicuous and striking object from the town of Mola is the fortress of Gaieta, crowning the rocky promontory of the same name with its white ramparts, and presenting to the eye, one above the other, its stages of angles

and batteries. The town itself is spread along the shore, and extends nearly from the centre of the bay to the point of the promontory.

Our road after this, lay in the defiles of Mount Massicus, which communicate with those of Callicula, a mountain covered with forests. From these defiles we emerged by a road cut through the rock above Francolisi, and as we looked down, beheld the plains of the Campania spread before us, bordered by the Apennines, with the craggy point of Ischia towering to the sky on one side, and in the centre Vesuvius, calmly lifting his double summit wreathed with smoke. Evening was now far advanced, and shed a purple tint over the sides and summits of the mountains, that gave at once a softness and richness to the picture, and contrasted finely with the darkness of the plains below, and the light colours of a few thin clouds fitting above.

Before we arrived at Capua, night had set in ; but it was night in all its charms, bright, serene, and odoriferous.—The only object that could then strike our eyes, or excite our curiosity, was the Lucida, a bright insect ; many of which were flying about in every direction, like sparks of fire, casting a vivid light around them, and seeming to threaten the waving corn over which they flitted, with a conflagration.

On our nearer approach to Naples, towards the close of a delightful day, we passed through Aversa, which is a well built modern town, and

the first stage out of Naples, in that direction; and shortly after this, a few miles on the Naples road, Her Royal Highness was met by some Neapolitan officers, dispatched to express the respect, and announce the approach of the King of Naples. Soon afterwards His Majesty Joachim, attended by his aide-de-camp, generals, and state officers, appeared on the road, to pay his respects to Her Royal Highness, and escort her into Naples. This ceremonial was gratifying, not merely from its splendour, although extremely grand and imposing in its effect, but considered as a mark of the respect and estimation in which our beloved mistress was held, and which the Royal Family of Naples thought proper thus publicly to express. The Royal cavalcade accompanied our party into Naples, and to the palace appropriated for her Royal Highness's residence. This house was not of sufficient extent for the commodious accommodation of the entire suite; and the suitable arrangement of the apartments furnished matter of employment for the ability of Her Royal Highness's Maitre d'hotel, M. Sicard, an old and faithful servant, who attended her from England. The care displayed by this worthy domestic, to make a proper disposal of the confined space afforded in this dwelling, and the singular address and effect with which he accomplished it, with a due regard to etiquette and decorum, and even without omitting the consideration of security, were

interesting, and in some degree amusing. Her Royal Highness's apartments were at one extremity of a gallery of considerable length; adjoining these was an apartment allotted to Master William Austin, Her Royal Highness's protégé; next one for M. Hieronymous, the page in waiting; then one for Dr. Holland, Her Royal Highness's physician. After these, at the opposite termination of the gallery, came that of M. Bergami; which, with a view to security for the gallery in which Her Royal Highness's apartments were, was at the garden entrance of the house. The domestics, and such of the suite as could be accommodated in the dwelling, were arranged on the upper story with like care.

We entered Naples at a late hour. Few scenes surpass in beauty that which burst full upon me, when I awoke next morning. In front, and under my windows, the bay of Naples spread its azure surface smooth as glass, while a thousand boats glided in different directions over its shining bosom: on the right, the town extended along the semicircular shore, and Posilipo rose close behind it, with churches and villas, vineyards, and pines, scattered in picturesque confusion along its sides, and on its ridge, till, sloping as it advanced, the bold hill terminated in a craggy promontory. On the left, at the end of a walk that forms the quay, and skirts the sea, the Castle of Uovo, standing on an insulated rock, caught the eye for a moment; while beyond it, over

a vast expanse of water, a rugged line of mountains stretched forward, and softening its features as it projected, presented towns, villages, and convents, lodged amidst its forests and precipices, and at length terminated in the Cape of Minerva, now of Surrentum. Opposite, and full in front, rose the island of Capreæ, with its white cliffs and ridgy summit, placed as a barrier to check the tempest, and protect the interior of the bay from its fury. This scene, illuminated by a sun that never shines so bright on the less favoured regions beyond the Alps, is justly considered as the most splendid and beautiful exhibition which nature perhaps presents to the human eye, and cannot but excite in the mind of the spectator, when beheld for the first time, emotions of delight and admiration that border on enthusiasm.

CHAPTER XIV.

General account of Naples—Its Public Buildings, Churches, Hospitals---Its Charitable Institutions ---Moral Character of Inhabitants---Amusements ---Opera.---Her Royal Highness attends the Opera and Masqued Ball---Her assumed Character there.---Excursions to Pozzuoli, Baja, and Mount Vesuvius.

THE real capital of the South is the ever cheerful and noisy city of Naples. While Rome suggests, at every step the thoughts of the transitory nature of earthly things, Naples, in the possession of all the charms of youth, offers the overflowing cup of life and enjoyment. While in the former, gravity and dignity characterize every motion of the inhabitants, all the actions of the Neapolitans are marked by harmless cheerfulness, and a liveliness which frequently appears even ludicrous. It is amusing, and even interesting, to see two Neapolitans in conversation, which one is frequently tempted to take for a quarrel, by perceiving every feature, hands, feet, in short, the whole body put in motion. And no less surprising is the velocity with which these pantomines are executed and understood.

Such an activity is incompatible with the reproach of idleness, which has been frequently

attributed to the Neapolitans, and every glance upon the country and the city serves to refute this stigma. The former is every where well cultivated, the latter is thronged, not by an inactive set, but by a people variously employed. The circumstance, that all trades are carrying on in the streets, furnishes another opportunity of admiring the zeal and industry of the working classes. The greatest wrong, however, has been done to the Lazzaroni, by stamping them as an idle, profligate race. Their number is about 40,000, and they form the lowest of the labouring classes. They are employed as porters, rowers, victual-sellers, and are capable of and ready for every occupation which will pay them a few quatrini. It is true that they are frequently found stealing; but you quite as often hear of examples of their fidelity, devotedness, and real generosity. In London too, there are as many, or perhaps more, who rise daily without knowing how they shall be supported during the day, and in a country too where living is so much dearer. In Naples, maize-bread, a little fish, a few oranges, some goblets of ice-water, or even wine, are easily obtained, and satisfy the frugality of this people, which is certainly one of their most excellent virtues. Drunkenness, therefore, is a vice almost unknown here. The Lazzaroni will work till they have earned enough to support them for the day, after which they will lie down under some porch, where they also usually spend

their nights, or else they repair to the Molo and Largo di Castello, where for a few quatrini they meet with some recreation. Thus their existence is rather harmless and poetical than otherwise; and although we are not inclined to pass them for a patriarchal people, we think it our duty to combat that prejudice which describes them as the scum of the nation, and the most abandoned wretches.

The Neapolitans are also called an ignorant and superstitious people. This reproach is not quite unmerited, but exaggerated. The higher orders are in possession of that information which now-a-days every where bestows on its possessors that sort of polish by which what is called "good society" is every where the same. Real scholarship is in all places in the possession of very few. Among the people, it is true, that sort of cultivation does not prevail, on which in some northern countries so much stress is laid; we mean that tint of education, that slight information accidentally caught, and that desire of appearing more than one is. But in lieu of this, their natural good sense appears more strongly: and although the ignorance of the lower, and even of some among the higher classes, is great, sufficient excuse for it may be found in the nature of the country, and the organization of the people. To live and enjoy, is there the watchword of the multitude; the pursuit of which scarcely leaves

them time enough to go to church, to return thanks to their saints, or quarrel with them, much less to apply themselves to study, and to instruct themselves. This is also the cause of the deficiency of religion among the lower orders, by which worship has become a mere form ; and the want of devotion in church, particularly during the mass, exceeds all description. Without any thought, you see them kneel down, mechanically turn their rosary, strike their breasts when the host is raised, and then hurry away ; or you find them kneeling before the altars, bathed in tears, and telling their misfortunes to the image of some saint, whose assistance they ask with the strangest gestures. Thus we one day entered a small church on the Mercato, the walls of which were hung round with representations of mutilated limbs, made of plaister of Paris, that had been suspended as a grateful present by those who had recovered. Here we found a great number of Lazzaroni, males and females, kneeling before the altars, who did not so much seem to pray to the holy images, as to be engaged with them in lively converse and quarrels. Some were weeping, and made a show of humility, repentance, and submission, as if they wished to make up for all their sins ; others had assumed an arrogant and threatening appearance ; others again seemed to reproach the saints bitterly for all their useless offers and prayers ; and others at last seemed to

exert all their eloquence to induce the saint to grant their request, which mostly is---for good luck in the lottery!

Naples is of very ancient origin, and from its unrivalled situation and advantages, has from remote dates enjoyed opulence and magnificence. No vestiges however remain of the ancient beauty or magnificence of this city. Its temples, its theatres, and churches, have been levelled by earthquakes, or destroyed by barbarians. Its modern edifices, whether churches or palaces, are less remarkable for their taste, than for their magnitude and riches. It is, however, highly probable that Naples is at present more opulent, more populous, and in every respect more flourishing, than she has ever before been, even in the most brilliant periods of her history.

Naples, seated in the bosom of a capacious haven, spreads her greatness and her population along its shore, and covers its shelving coasts and bordering mountains with her villas, her gardens, and her retreats. Containing within her own walls more than four hundred thousand inhabitants, she sees one hundred thousand more enliven her suburbs, that stretch in a magnificent and most extensive sweep, filling a spacious line of sixteen miles along the shore with life and activity. In size and number of inhabitants she ranks as the third city in Europe, and from her situation and superb show, may justly be considered, as she is termed, the Queen of the Mediterranean. The

internal appearance of Naples is in general pleasing : the edifices are lofty and solid ; the streets as wide as in any continental city ; the Strada Toledo is a mile in length, and with the quay, which is very extensive and well built, forms the grand and distinguishing features of the city. In fact the Chiaia, with the royal garden, Mergyllina and Santa Lucia, which spread along the coast for a considerable space, and present such an immense line of lofty edifices, are sufficient to give an appearance of grandeur to any city. As for architectural magnificence, Naples possesses a very small share, as the prevailing taste has always been bad. The magnificence therefore of the churches and palaces consist first in their magnitude, and then in paintings, marbles, and decorations in general, which however are seldom disposed with taste and judgment, and, when best disposed, are scattered around with a profusion that destroys their effect.

Few cities, however, stand in less need of architectural magnificence or internal attractions than Naples. Had it even fewer artificial recommendations, it would still be a most desirable residence ; so beautiful is its neighbourhood, so delicious its climate ! Before it spreads the sea, with its bays, promontories, and islands ; behind it rise mountains and rocks in every fantastic form, and always clothed with verdure ; on each side swell hills and hillocks, covered with groves, and gardens, and orchards, blooming with fruits

and flowers. Every morning a gale springing from the sea, brings vigour and coolness with it, and tempers the greatest heats of summer with its freshness. Every evening a breeze blowing from the hills, and sweeping all the perfumes of the country before it, fills the nightly atmosphere with fragrance.

Several of the churches of Naples are supposed to occupy the sites of ancient temples, the names and memory of which have been preserved by this circumstance. Thus the cathedral is supported by more than a hundred columns of granite, which belonged to the edifice over which it was erected, a temple of Apollo.

In the subterraneous chapel under the choir of St. Januarius is deposited the body of the saint. His supposed blood is kept in a phial in the Tesoro, and is considered as the most valuable of its deposits, and indeed the glory and ornament of the cathedral and of the city itself. Into the truth of this supposition little enquiry is made; the fact is supposed to guarantee itself.

The Santa Apostoli is in its origin perhaps the most ancient church in Naples, and was, if we may credit tradition, erected by Constantine upon the ruins of a temple of Mercury: it has however, been partially rebuilt more than once, and finally with great magnificence. The church of St. Paul occupies the site of a temple of Castor and Pollux: the front of this temple, consisting of eight Corinthian pillars, was destroyed by the

earthquake of 1688. Two only were restored, and now form part of the frontispiece of the church. The interior is spacious, well proportioned, and finely incrustated with marble. The chancel is very extensive, and all supported by antique pillars : it is supposed to stand over the theatre where Nero first disgraced himself by appearing as a public singer.

The church of Del Parto is remarkable for a singular picture in one of its chapels : it represents St. Michael trampling on Satan. It is observable, that the latter is represented with the face of a beautiful female, and the reason given is whimsical enough. The countenance of the Devil is a picture of a very beautiful lady, who unfortunately fell in love with Diomedes Caraffa, bishop of Ariano, who, to show his abhorrence of her sacrilegious passion, when fitting up this chapel for his mausoleum, ordered the painter to degrade her into the infernal spirit, and place her prostrate under the spear of the archangel. For the satisfaction of the sex, I must add, however, that this ungallant prelate has not been canonized.

But if the churches do no credit to the taste to the Neapolitans, the hospitals reflect infinite honour on their charity. These establishments are very numerous, and adapted to every species of distress to which the human frame is subject, in mind or body. Many of them are richly endowed, and all clean, well attended, and

well regulated. One circumstance, almost peculiar to Italian hospitals and charitable foundations, contributes essentially to their splendour and prosperity: it is, that they are not only attended by persons who devote themselves without any interested views to the relief of suffering humanity, but that they are governed and inspected not nominally, but really, by persons of the first rank and education, who manage the interests of the establishments with a prudence and assiduity which they seldom perhaps display in their own domestic economy. Besides, to almost every hospital is attached one and sometimes more fraternities, or pious associations, formed for the purpose of relieving some particular species of distress, or remedying some evil. These fraternities, though open to all ranks, generally contain a very considerable proportion of noble persons, who make it a point to fulfil the duties of the association with an exemplary exactness. These persons visit the respective hospitals almost daily, enquire into the situation and circumstances of every patient, and oftentimes attend on them personally, and render them the most humble services. They perform these duties in disguise, and generally in the dress or uniform worn by the fraternity, for the express purpose of diverting public attention from the individuals, and fixing it on the object of the association.

Of charitable foundations in Naples, the number

is above sixty. Of these, seven are hospitals properly so called; thirty, at least, are conservatories, or receptacles for helpless orphans, foundlings, &c.; five are banks, for the relief of such industrious poor as are distressed by the occasional want of small sums of money: the others are either schools or fraternities. The incomes of most of these establishments, particularly the hospitals, are in general very considerable, but seldom equal to the expenditure. The annual deficiency, how great soever it may be, is however abundantly supplied by donations, most of which come from unknown benefactors.

The two principal hospitals are, that of the Incurables, which, notwithstanding its title, is open to sick persons of all descriptions, and constantly relieves more than eighteen hundred; and that of *Della Santissima Annunziata*, which is immensely rich, and destined to receive foundlings, penitent females, &c. and said sometimes to harbour two thousand. To each belong in the first place a villa, and in the second a cemetery. The villa of the first is situated at *Torre del Greco*, and is destined for the benefit of convalescents, and such as labour under distempers that require air and exercise.

The *Conservatorii* are schools, opened for poor children of both sexes, where they are educated, fed, and taught some handicraft trade. Some are in the nature of working-houses, and employ a prodigious number of indigent persons of both

sexes in separate buildings, while others are devoted entirely to children educated principally for music. These latter institutions have produced some, or rather most of the great performers and masters of the art, who have figured in the churches or on the stages of the different capitals of Europe for the last hundred years.

Of the numberless fraternities, I shall only mention such as have some unusual and singular object. There is one, the members of which make it their duty to visit condemned criminals, prepare them for death, accompany them to execution, and give them a decent burial. They carry their charitable attentions still further, and provide for the widows and children of these unhappy persons. Another fraternity consists of lawyers, who undertake to plead the causes of the poor gratis, and furnish all the expences necessary to carry their suits through the courts with success. To be entitled to the assistance and support of this association, no recommendation or introduction is required: the person applying has only to prove his poverty, and give a full and fair statement of his case.

The Congregazione della Croce is composed principally of nobility, and is to relieve the poor and imprisoned, and particularly to bury the bodies of such distressed and forsaken persons when dead.

The congregation Della Santissima is destined more particularly for the relief of strangers, and

is composed of persons of all classes, who meet in its assemblies, and fulfil its duties without distinction.

The congregation of nobles for the relief of the bashful poor. The object of this association is to discover and relieve such industrious persons as are reduced to poverty by misfortune, and have too much spirit, or too much modesty, to solicit public assistance. The members of this association, it is said, discharge its benevolent duties with zeal and sagacity, and, what is still more necessary for the accomplishment of their object, with the utmost delicacy and kindness.

On the second day of our arrival, Her Royal Highness was visited by their Majesties the King and Queen of Naples, and Her Royal Highness dined at court. In the evening a brilliant concert was given in honour, at which were present all the resident nobility and fashion of Naples. On the evening following this, Her Royal Highness was accompanied by their Majesties to the opera: she went attended by her suite from our own house to the royal palace, and thence to the opera in the royal state carriages. Her Royal Highness occupied the state box.

A short time after this, Her Royal Highness gave a masqued ball, to which the court and nobility were parties. Her Royal Highness on this occasion condescended to personate various different characters, in all which she evinced her affability of temper and her fine taste. In

one of these the character assumed was that of the supposed Genius of History, in which Her Royal Highness had an opportunity of displaying her classical taste, in the general support of the character, and in the exemplary chasteness and the splendour of the dress.

Select masqued balls, in which persons of the highest rank and respectability mix and personate assumed characters, are frequent here, and furnish a favourite source of amusement.

CHAPTER XV.

Description of the Isle of Ischia, in the Gulf of Naples.---Account of an Excursion to Mount Vesuvius.---Description of the Mountain, and its Prospects.---Portici and Herculaneum.---Pompeii---Description of its present state.

HER Royal Highness was induced to remain at Naples till the month of April 1815, with a view to the recruiting her health and exhausted spirits by the quiet enjoyments of the place and the beneficial effects of the climate; the interval being occupied by frequent visits to, and entertainments given in honour of Her Royal Highness by the court of Naples, in receiving the visits of respect of the British and foreign nobility, in visiting the curiosities of interest, and in general arrangements for the future line of travel, &c. to be pursued.

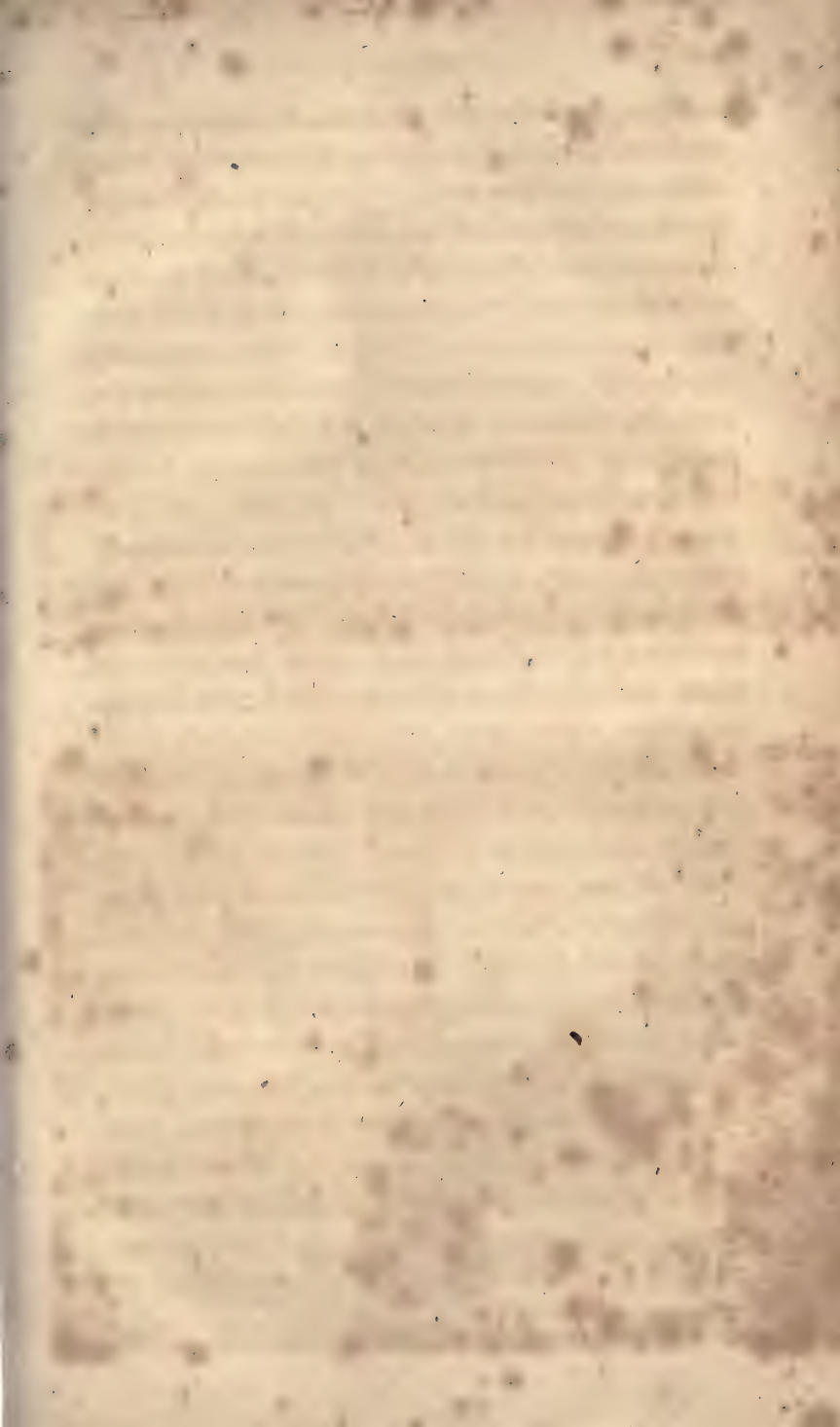
The island of Ischia, in the gulf of Naples, from its beauty, its waters, and the coolness and salubrity of its air, attract a considerable number of visitants to it in summer time; it may be considered as very prosperous and flourishing. Its coasts present a great variety of romantic scenery, as they are in general bold and craggy, indented with little bays, jutting out in points, and lined

with shapeless rocks. Ischia is about eighteen miles in circumference, and may contain about seventy square miles; the number of its inhabitants amounts to four-and-twenty thousand. It belongs to the king, and brings him a considerable income, arising principally from a tax on its wines.

We passed under Nisada, rising as a theatre from the sea : its lower part is covered with buildings, the upper is crowned, as anciently, with wood.

It was once the rural retreat of Brutus, and frequently honoured with Cicero's presence when on a visit to his friend. On doubling the promontory of Posilipo, we beheld the bay, with boats without number skimming over its smooth surface, and Naples extended along the coast in all its glory full before us. The immense line of white edifices stretched along the beach, and spread over the hills behind; the bold but verdant coasts on either side, glittering with towns, villages, convents, and villas; and mount Vesuvius raising its scorched summit almost in the centre---form a picture of singular beauty, and render this view from the sea preferable to every other, because it alone combines all the characteristic features of this matchless prospect. We landed at sun-set, and sat down to dinner with our windows open, and enjoyed a magnificent view of the bay, the colours of which were imperceptibly diminishing into the dim tints of twilight.

We now turned our attention to Vesuvius, and resolved to visit that interesting mountain without delay, and the more so, as the weather might in a short time render such an excursion extremely inconvenient. Therefore leaving Naples at an early hour next morning, we reached Portici, where guides with mules had been previously engaged to meet us, and immediately began the ascent. Vesuvius rises in a gentle swell from the shore: the first part or base of the mountain is covered with towns on all sides, such as Portici, Torre del Greco, Torre del Annunziata, on the sea coast, and Ottaiano, Somma, Massa, &c. on the inland side. These are all large towns, and with the villages and villas that encircle them, and extend over the second region of the mountain, may be said, without exaggeration, to cover the lower parts of it with fertility, beauty, and population. The upper tract is a scene of perfect devastation, furrowed on all sides with rivers of lava, extended in wide black lines over the surface. This region may be said to terminate at the Atrio dei Cavalli, so called because travellers are obliged to dismount and leave their horses there till their return, as the summit of the mountain must be ascended on foot. This part has the shape of a truncated cone; it is formed almost entirely of ashes, and is extremely difficult of ascent, as it yields under the pressure of the foot, so that one step out of three may be considered as lost. The guides however afford





VIEW OF MOUNT ETNA.



VIEW OF VESUVIUS DURING AN ERUPTION.

every assistance, and, by means of a leathern strap thrown over their shoulders, ease the traveller not a little in his exertions. It is advisable to proceed slowly and rest at intervals, as the fatigue otherwise is sufficient to try even strong and youthful constitutions.

When we reached the summit we found ourselves on a narrow ledge of burnt earth or cinders, with the crater of the volcano open beneath us. This orifice in its present form, for it varies at almost every eruption, is about a mile and a half in circumference, and may be about three hundred and fifty feet in depth. Its eastern border is considerably higher than the western. Its sides are formed of ashes and cinders, with some rocks and masses of lava intermingled, and shelve in a steep declivity, enclosing at the bottom a flat space of about three quarters of a mile in circumference. We descended some way, but observing that the slightest motion or even noise brought vast quantities of ashes and stones rolling together down the sides, and being called back by our guides, who assured us we could not in safety go lower, or even remain in our station, we reascended. We were near enough to the bottom however to observe, that it seemed to be a sort of crust of brown burnt earth, and that a little on one side there were three orifices like funnels, whence ascended a vapour so thin as to be scarcely perceptible. We reached the summit a little before seven; and as we had ascended

under the shade of the mountain, we had yet felt no inconvenience from the heat. While on the top we were refreshed by a strong wind blowing from the east, and profiting of so favourable a circumstance, we sat down on the highest point of the cone to enjoy the prospect below us. Vesuvius is about three thousand six hundred feet in height, and of course does not rank among the greater mountains ; but its situation is so advantageous, that the scene which it unfolds to the eye, probably surpasses that displayed from any other eminence. The prospect includes Naples, with its bay, its islands, and its bordering promontories ; the whole of that delicious region justly denominated the *Campia Felice*, with its numberless towns, and town-like villages. It loses itself in the immensity of the sea on one side, and on the other is bordered by the Apennines, forming a semicircular frame of various tints and bold outline.

The most interesting object seen from the summit of Vesuvius, is the mountain itself, torn to pieces by a series of convulsions, and strewn with its own ruins. Vesuvius may be said to have two summits, the cone which I have described, and a ridge separated from it by a deep valley, called *Monte Somma*, from a town that stands on its side. The distance between these two summits is in a straight line, nearly three thousand feet. The ridge on the side towards the cone, presents a steep, rugged, barren precipice ; on

the other side it shelves gently towards the plain, and is covered with verdure and villages. The valley or deep dell that winds between these eminences is a desolate hollow, formed entirely of calcined stones, cinders, and ashes, and resembles a vast subterraneous forge, the rocky roof of which has given way, and admitted light from above. Hence it is conjectured that it is part of the interior of the mountain, as the ridge that borders it, or the Monte Somma, is the remnant of the exterior or original surface, so much celebrated for its beauty and fertility, previous to the eruption of the year 79 of the Christian era. It is indeed probable that the convulsions of the mountain in that first tremendous explosion may have totally shattered its upper parts; while the vast ejection of ashes, cinders, ignited stones, and melted minerals, must have left a large void in its centre. One entire side of the mountain seems to have been consumed, or scattered around on this occasion, while the other remains in Monte Somma. The cavity thus formed, was filled up in part by the matter ejected in subsequent eruptions, and gradually raised into the present cone, which however varies its shape with every new agitation, and increases or diminishes, according to the quantity of materials thrown out by the mountain. In the eruption of 1794, the greater part of this cone, in fact itself a little mountain, was actually raised and kept suspended in the air for some minutes, then sunk into the crater and

almost filled the cavity. The fire raging in the gulf below having thus lost its vent, burst through the flank of the mountain, and poured out a torrent of lava as it rolled down the declivity, swept all before it, and in its way to the sea destroyed the greater part of Torre del Greco.

We descended the cone or upper part of the mountain with great ease and rapidity, as the ashes, yielding to the tread, prevented slipping, and enabled us to hasten our pace without danger. From the Atrio dei Cavalli we proceeded towards a bed of lava ejected in the last eruption, and found its appearance very different from that which we had observed from the summit. From thence it resembled long stripes of new ploughed land; here it was like the surface of a dark muddy stream convulsed by a hurricane, and frozen in a state of agitation, presenting rough broken masses rolling over each other, with a huge fragment rising above the rest here and there, like a vast wave distorted by the tempest and congealed in its fall. The exterior parts of this once liquid torrent of fire are cold, but the sand produced by the friction and crumbling of the interior parts, although it is now several years since the eruption, is still too hot to hold in the hand, as is indeed the earth itself under, or in immediate contact with these once glowing masses. We continued our descent, and again reached Portici about eleven o'clock.

Portici is a small town about six miles from

Naples on the sea-shore, and at the foot of Vesuvius : its principal ornament is a royal palace. Under this town and palace, lies buried, at the depth of seventy feet under accumulated beds of lava, the city of Herculaneum, the first victim of the fires of Vesuvius. Its name and catastrophe were too well recorded to be forgotten ; but its site, though marked out by the ancients with tolerable precision, was a subject of debate among the learned, till an accident determined the controversy. A peasant sinking a well in his garden, found several fragments of marble. The prince d'Elbeuf, being informed of the circumstance, purchased the spot, and continuing the excavations, discovered various statues, pillars, and even a whole temple of the richest marble, adorned with statues. The Neapolitan government then interposed, and suspended all further excavations for the space of twenty years; at which time, instead of satisfying the public curiosity, and doing itself immortal honour by purchasing the village and buildings above, and laying open the whole city below it, bought the ground, but with an extraordinary inactivity resolved to cover it with a palace. The excavations were indeed continued occasionally, but negligently, and rather for the purpose of profit than liberal curiosity. However, a church, two temples, and a theatre, were successively discovered, and stripped of their numerous pillars and statues. Streets were ob-

served, paved and flagged on the sides ; and private houses, and even monuments, explored. A prodigious number of statues of bronze, of different sizes, pillars of marble and alabaster, and paintings and mosaics, many entire and in high preservation, others fractured and damaged, have been drawn from the edifices of this subterraneous city, and give a high idea of its former opulence and splendour : to these we may add every species of ornaments used in dress, of weapons and armour, of kitchen utensils and domestic furniture, of agricultural and chirurgical instruments. More treasures, without doubt, might be extracted from this long forgotten and neglected mine of antiquity, but the almost inconceivable indifference of the court, and the indolence with which the excavations have been carried on, as well as the manner, which is more influenced by a regard for the safety of the heavy useless palace above, than by any considerations of curiosity and interest in the city below, have hitherto, in spite of public eagerness, checked, or rather suspended the undertaking. At present the theatre is the only part open to inspection ; the descent is by a long flight of stairs, wide and convenient, but the darkness below is too deep to be dispelled by the feeble glare of a few torches.

But of all the articles of this collection, however curious, and of all the treasures drawn from Herculaneum, however valuable, the most cu-

rious and most valuable are, without doubt, the manuscripts of antiquity which have been there discovered. Of these, a considerable number dissolved into dust as soon as exposed to the air, while others, though scorched, or rather burnt, resist the action of that element. The number of the latter is about eighteen hundred.

The fate of Herculaneum naturally reminds us of Pompeii, which was destined to perish by the same disastrous catastrophe in the first century, and to arise again from its tomb in the eighteenth. We accordingly made an excursion to this town. It is about fourteen miles from Naples, on the road to Nocera. From Naples, to Torre del Greco, the high way is almost a street, so close are the villas, villages, and towns to each other. As the road runs along the coast, and at the foot of Vesuvius, every break gives on one side a view of the bay, on the other of the mountain.

Torre del Greco still presents in its shattered houses, half buried churches, and streets almost choked up with lava, a melancholy instance of the ravages of the last eruption. The depth of the destructive torrent is in some places five-and-twenty feet; so that the entrance into several houses is now in the second story, and into one church, through the great window over the western door. Some edifices were entirely destroyed; others were surrounded, incrustated, and filled with lava, and may perhaps give a very

accurate idea of the state of Herculaneum at the time of its destruction. The inhabitants after having seen their town in part levelled with the ground, or swallowed up in the fiery deluge, and in part shaken and disjointed, would have been excusable if they had transferred the wreck of their property to some other less obnoxious quarter.

It is generally supposed that the destruction of this city was sudden and unexpected. The number of skeletons discovered in Pompeii amounts to about sixty.

The effect on the mind while exploring Pompeii is extremely striking. Here not a temple, nor a theatre, nor a column, nor a house, but a whole city rises before us, untouched, unaltered; the very same pavement, the very same as it was eighteen hundred years ago, when inhabited by Romans. We range through the streets, behold the same walls, enter the same doors, and repose in the same apartments. We are surrounded by the same objects, and out of the same windows contemplate the same scenery. While you are wandering through the abandoned rooms, you may, without any great effort of imagination, expect to meet some of the former inhabitants, or perhaps the master of the house himself, and almost feel like intruders, who dread the appearance of any of the family. In the streets you are afraid of turning a corner, lest you should jostle a passenger; and on entering a house the

least sound startles, as if the proprietor was coming out of the back apartments. The traveller may long indulge the illusion, for not a voice is heard, not even the sound of a foot to disturb the loneliness of the place, or interrupt his reflections. All around is silence, not the silence of solitude and repose, but of death and devastation, the silence of a great city without one single inhabitant!

Immediately above the buildings the ground rises, not into a cliff, casting gloom, as the sides of a grave on the hollow below, but as a gentle swell formed by nature to shelter the houses at its base. It is clothed with corn, poplars, mulberries, and vines in their most luxuriant graces waving from tree to tree, still covering the greater part of the city with vegetation, and forming, with the dark brown masses half buried below, a singular and most affecting contrast. This scene of a city, raised as it were from the grave, where it had lain forgotten during the long night of eighteen centuries, when once beheld must remain for ever pictured in the imagination; and, whenever it presents itself to the fancy, it comes like the recollection of an awful apparition, accompanied by thoughts and emotions solemn and melancholy.

CHAPTER XVI.

*Peculiarity of Manners of the Neapolitan People.
 The Lazzaroni.—Popular view of the Italian
 National Character—Courage—Information—
 Hastiness of Temper—Industry.—Her Royal
 Highness leaves Naples for Rome, on her way
 to Genoa—Route from Rome to Civita Vec-
 chia—Embark for Genoa.—Isle of Elba.—
 The Voyage—Leghorn—Genoa.*

THE manners of the lower and numerous classes in Naples is perhaps at no time seen to so much advantage or with so much precision as at the time of public festivals or rejoicing. Enjoyment is at such seasons the first consideration, and the establishments for satisfying it are manifold and conspicuous. No shops in Naples are more numerous, or more neatly and tastefully set out than those of the victuallers. Cheeses are raised into pyramids and columns; artificial mounts are made of eggs; sausages and hams are ornamented with gold leaves, and entwined with laurel-garlands. In the back of the shop a small lamp is seen burning before an image of the Virgin, throwing its glimmer through the provisions before it, and in the evening the whole is splendidly illuminated. The busy shopkeepers themselves, neatly dressed in white, greatly

heighten the picture. The tables of the water and lemonade venders are also strikingly ornamented. Lively colours, puppets, standards, piles of lemons and oranges regularly heaped up, are visible from a distance. The water sparkling from a small suspended cask, containing ice, is mixed in a clean glass with lemon juice, or spirit of juniper-berries. One cannot walk twenty steps without meeting a portable hearth, on which provisions are roasting or boiling. The produce of the sea, all kinds of fish, oysters, sea-pods, are exposed for sale in large baskets. The lemons and oranges, coming from Sicily and Sorente, are, on some parts of the coast, seen piled up in huge heaps, forming with their leaves and stalks a very picturesque and droll appearance. The taverns and coffee-houses are numerous. In short, the incitements for enjoyment, for rich and poor, are universal.

It is impossible to witness the general good humour that reigns amid such an immense populace at all times, and particularly, when the joy of the moment lays them most open to sudden impulse, and not conceive a good opinion of their temper, and not reflect with surprise on the very unfavourable accounts given of the Neapolitans, as indeed of the Italians in general, by some hasty and prejudiced observers, who have not hesitated to represent them as a nation of idlers, buffoons, cheats, adulterers, and assassins. Of these imputations some are common.

I am afraid to all countries; but for the much greater part are grounded upon misconception, ignorance, and sometimes a propensity to censure and misrepresentation. The animation of gesture peculiar to southern nations is, when under the management of taste and judgment, the result of sensibility. In the higher class, when polished by education, it is graceful and pleasing; in the lower it is lively and natural, but sometimes apt to degenerate into buffoonery; yet often this buffoonery shews great quickness of apprehension, and constitutes the groundwork of that pantomime which was a favourite amusement among the ancients, even during the most refined ages. To reproach them therefore with it, is only to say that the lower class in Naples has not sufficient discernment to employ the gifts of nature to the best advantage, and that their talents are not improved and perfected by education.

— The imputation of idleness cannot be founded on the appearance of the country, cultivated as it is on all sides to the highest degree of perfection; it seems rather to have arisen from the manners and appearance of the Lazzaroni, who have ever been misrepresented. The fact is, that this peculiar tribe is neither more nor less than the poorer part of the labouring class, such as are attached to no particular trade, but willing to work at all, and to take any job that is offered. If in London, where there is a regular tide of commerce, and a constant call for labour,

there are supposed to be at least thirteen thousand persons who rise every morning without employment, and rely for maintenance on the accidents of the day ; it is but fair to allow Naples, teeming as it is with population, and yet destitute of similar means of supporting it, to have in proportion a greater number of the same description, without incurring the censure of general laziness.

The Lazzaroni are the porters of Naples: they are sometimes attached to great houses, to perform commissions for servants, and give assistance where strength and exertion are requisite; and in such stations are said to give proofs of secrecy, honesty and disinterestedness, very unusual among servants. Their dress is often only a shirt and trowsers; their diet maccaroni, fish, water melon, with iced water, and not unfrequently wine; and their habitation the portico of a church or palace. Their athletic forms, and constant flow of spirits, are sufficient demonstrations of the salutary effects of such plain food and simple habits. Yet these very circumstances, the consequences, or rather the blessings of the climate, have been turned into a subject of reproach, and represented as the result of indifference and indolence in a people either ignorant of the comforts of life, or too lazy to procure them. It would be happy, however, if the poor in every other country could so well dispense with animal food and warm covering.

The nickname by which this class is designated, tends to prejudice the stranger against them, as it seems to convey the idea of a sturdy beggar: it is derived however from a Spanish word, *lacero*, signifying tattered or ragged. Several anecdotes are related of the Lazzaroni, that rebound much to their credit, and imply feelings which do not superabound in any rank, and would do honour to the highest.

The Lazzaroni, properly so called, appear to be the most labourious and disinterested part of the population; attached to religion and order, simple and sincere in their manners and expressions, faithful to those who trust them, and ready to shed the last drop of their blood sooner than betray the interests of their employers.—A few general observations on the Italian national character will not be considered misplaced here, but almost necessary, as the subject has been much distorted by prejudice and misrepresentation. We may assert that the Italian character has been ever unjustly overcharged, and totally unlike the original.

The Italians have been too hastily accused, as a nation, of a natural deficiency of animal courage, of general ignorance, of a disposition to vindictive cruelty, and of idleness.

Notwithstanding the unfavourable impression produced by recent events in Italy, I will without hesitation begin in my refutation of these charges with the first, animal courage.

Courage is a quality common to the whole human species: every nation arrogates it to itself, which is a proof that it belongs to all. If any seem deficient in it, the deficiency is to be attributed, not to innate cowardice, but to ignorance of the art of war, to want of discipline, to a consciousness of the inutility of resistance, or to some such incidental circumstance. Hence nations most inured to arms, display this quality most; and hence the same army, as well as the same individual, sometimes gives surprising marks of courage and of cowardice in the same campaign. To accuse the Italians of cowardice, is to belie their whole history. Not courage, but motives which call it forth, and the means which give it effect; that is, discipline, hope, interest, &c. are wanting to the Italians.

Those who reproach the Italians with ignorance, must have a very imperfect knowledge of that people, and have confined their observations to the lowest populace of great cities, and to the peasants of certain mountainous tracts and unfrequented provinces. Such classes in all countries have little means or inclination to acquire knowledge; they are every where left much to nature, and consequently retain something of savage manners. The peasantry of the north of Italy, particularly of the Piedmontese and Milanese territories, and those of Tuscany, are equal in point of information to the peasantry

of the most flourishing countries in Europe. Even in the Neapolitan territory, without doubt the worst governed of all the Italian states, I have seen a shepherd boy lying under a tree with a book in his hand, his dog at his feet, and his goats browsing on the rocky hills around him, a scene altogether delightful. The middling classes, which constitute the strength, and give the character of a nation, are generally well acquainted with every thing that regards their duty, the objects of their profession, and their respective interests. In some of the accomplishments most valued and useful in commercial countries, they are inferior to the same classes in England. But, even where the ordinary share of information is wanting, the deficiency is not so perceptible as in northern regions, whose inhabitants are naturally slow. The Italian is acute and observing, and these qualities supply in a great degree the place of reading.

It has been imagined, that the idea has long prevailed, that the Italian is vindictive and cruel, and in the habit of sacrificing human life to vengeance and passion: this deep rooted prejudice is however an unjust and an unworthy one, although it has furnished our novellists and our drama with such an abundant source of description; dungeons and friars, daggers and assassins, carcasses and spectres, have constantly been Italian, until, like all other overcharged

and illiberal prejudices, the tale has sickened, and has dwindled from its assumed character of fact, to mere amusement for the nursery.

In truth, the Italian is neither vindictive nor cruel; he is of hasty temper, and passionate. His temper, like his climate, is habitually gay and serene, but is sometimes agitated by tremendous storms; and these, though transient, do sometimes produce lamentable catastrophes. An unexpected insult, a hasty word, occasion a quarrel; both parties lose their temper; weapons may be drawn, and a mortal blow be given; the transaction is so sudden, that the by-standers have scarce time to notice it, much less to interpose and prevent it. But this is by no means so common as has been represented; the remedy even for this was easy and obvious, to prohibit under the severest penalty, to carry arms of any description. This remedy has been applied with full success by the French, while masters of the south of Italy, and by the Austrians while in possession of the northern part.

The industry of the Italian peasantry is remarkable; it is a virtue which may be traced over every plain, and discovered on every mountain, from one extremity of Italy to the other. The fertility of the plains of the Milanese is proverbial, but its exuberance is not more owing to the bounty of nature, than to the skill, the perseverance, and the exertions of the cultivator. Hence, where the natural felicity of the soil seems

to fail, the industry of the labourer still continues, and covers with vines and olive-trees the sides of mountains naturally barren.

The beauty and cultivation of the plains which extend beyond the Alps and the Apennines are well known; and the traveller who has seen them, will not be surprised that a Greek Emperor should have supposed them, in his admiration, to be the scenes of the terrestrial paradise. But Italian industry is not confined to these regions of fertility. From Bologna to Loretto, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles, it has covered the coast of the Adriatic with rich harvests, and shaded the brows of the Apennines with verdure and foliage. It also displays its labours to the best advantage, and every where shows, in fences, canals to water the fields, plantations, &c. a neatness of tillage seldom witnessed, and never surpassed, even in the best cultivated countries. And not those regions only, but the defiles of Seravalle; the lovely vales of the Arno and of the Clitumnos, of Terni, and of Reate; the skirts of Vesuvius, so often ravaged, and so often restored to cultivation; the orchards that blow on the steeps of Vallombrosa, and wave on the summits of Monte Summano: Italy, all Italy indeed as the garden of Eden, from the Adriatic to the Tuscan, from the Alps to the Ionian Sea, is a proof and a monument of the industry and the intelligence of its inhabitants.

To form a just idea of the religion of Italy,

we should consider that in all Christian countries the same Gospel is professed, and the same principal articles of belief admitted, the same moral duties prescribed, and enforced by the same sanction of eternal rewards and punishments. The forms and ceremonies of worship, a consistent Protestant traveller will leave to the taste, the feelings, and the judgment of the public. In the religion of Italy we shall find much to praise, something perhaps to admire. In attendance on public worship the Italian is universally regular: and though such constant attendance may not be considered as an evidence of sincere faith, yet every person of reflection will admit that it does not admit either of infidelity or indifference. Nor is the devotion of the Italian confined to public service. The churches are almost always open; persons of regular life and of independent circumstances generally visit some or other of them every day; and individuals of all conditions may be seen at all hours on their knees, humbly offering up their prayers at the throne of mercy. The number of persons who receive the sacrament, and the becoming gravity of their deportment on this solemn occasion, will be another source of edification to a sincere Christian. Of the numberless religious practices interwoven in the life of an Italian, and incorporated with the whole business of his life, little must be said, because

I am aware that they are generally regarded as marks rather of superstition than of piety.

It should however be understood that the Catholic does not reverence the image he salutes, but the person it represents. When an Italian, passing before a crucifix, takes off his hat, he means not to honour the identical figure, but to express his reverence and gratitude to the sacred Person thus represented as a victim. When he shews a similar respect to a picture of the Virgin, he means not to adore a creature, but to express his veneration for the most perfect model of virgin modesty and of maternal fondness on record in the holy writings.

But to turn from the exterior of religion to practices more connected with its essential qualities, and consequently better adapted to the feelings of Englishmen, we need only to look at the public benevolence and private charities of Italy. The number of priests or ecclesiastical persons in Italy, is neither such an absurdity nor such a grievance as Englishmen are generally apt to imagine, and for the following reason: in a country where the population is immense, and that population of the same religion, the parochial clergy alone are not sufficiently numerous to supply all the religious wants of their flocks, especially when the instruction of every child, and the visitation of the sick, are considered essential parts of the clerical duty. To

fulfil these duties, deputies and assistants are indispensably necessary; and who are better calculated to fill such humble offices, than men who ask no salary and refuse no task; who, content with the bare necessities of life, are always ready to obey the calls of the clergy, and to relieve them in the discharge of the most laborious functions? Such are the friars, a set of people traduced by strangers, but in truth, humble, unassuming, and disinterested. Add to these circumstances, that a great part of the population of Italy is spread over the fastnesses, and immersed in the recesses of the Apennines, and separated from the inhabitants of the plains by barriers of ice and snow. When in these wilds the traveller discovers on some eminence the humble spire of a convent, or when from the neighbouring forest he hears the tolling bell of an ancient abbey, religion and hospitality seem to rise before him, to soften the savage features of the scene, and to inspire hopes of protection and refreshment; nor seldom are these hopes disappointed. In the rich abbey he may loiter day after day, and still find his presence acceptable, and his hosts entertaining; in the humble convent he will meet with a hearty welcome, be introduced into the best apartments, and partake of their very best fare. If he stays, he confers an obligation; if he goes, he departs with their blessing and their prayers. Such acts of kindness remind us that we are Christians and bro-

thers, and, in spite of religious animosity, melt and delight the benevolent heart.

It is urged against convents, that they are supported by charity, and are an encouragement to idleness, and a tax upon the industrious poor. These convents are supported by charity, it is true, but that charity is a voluntary gift drawn from the stores of the rich, not scraped from the pittance of the poor. Their inhabitants are mendicants : but they refund the alms which they collect with ample interest, by sharing them with the poor and the cripple, with the blind and the sick, with the houseless pilgrim and the benighted wanderer. Thus they spare their country the expence of workhouses, and preserve it from the oppressive and accumulating burthen of poor-rates. They instruct the ignorant, they visit the sick, they nurse the dying, and they bury the dead ; employments silent and obscure, but useful to mankind and acceptable to God.

The regular clergy of Italy may be divided into two great classes, monks and friars, who though they are bound in common by the three vows of poverty, of chastity, and of obedience, yet they live under very different regulations. The former, under various appellations, follow almost universally the rule of St. Benedict, who in the sixth century formed regulations for the monastic life. His rule is a treatise of morality ; it recommends many virtues, and prescribes re-

gulations regarding the disposal of time, the order of worship, and the practice of hospitality, and it enjoins manual labour. The truth is, that in their hours, their habit, their diet, and their employments, the first monks nearly resembled the better sort of peasants. The cowl, a long black gown or toga, intended to cover their working dress, and give them a decent appearance in church, was at first the only external distinction. In progress of time, the general promotion of the monks to holy orders, their application to literature, and above all, their adherence to the forms, the hours, and the manners of the age of their institution, made the distinction more striking, and at length marked them out as a separate tribe.

The first monasteries established by St. Benedict, and by his immediate disciples, were generally built among ruins, in unwholesome marshes or uncultivated plains, in the midst of dreary forests or on the summits of mountains almost inaccessible. As these rugged scenes began to smile upon the industry of their inhabitants, their increasing riches sometimes overflowed, and fertilized whole provinces. Their solitudes became gradually peopled by well-fed and happy peasants, and the abbey itself probably became the centre and the ornament of a flourishing city. These establishments were not only the abode of piety, but they became the asylum of learning; and the Benedictines, not content with

hoarding up books, endeavoured to diffuse science and opened their retreat to the studious : thus the monasteries soon became the seminaries of youth.

The Benedictines have been regularly accused of luxury : and poets and novelists have at all times amused themselves in describing rosy and slumbering abbots ; and convivial monks, with the glass in their hands, laughing at the midnight bell. To affirm that no scenes of revelry had ever been witnessed in an abbey, would be absurd ; but to imagine that such scenes were frequent would be ridiculous. The rule of St. Benedict obliges his disciples to *hospitality*, and their luxury consisted in entertaining every guest according to his rank and their own means. The abbot on such occasions represented the whole body, and was exclusively charged with the care and entertainment of visitors : he had a table and separate apartments allotted for that specific purpose, and generally lived in the style and splendour of a bishop. In the interim, the monks with the prior at their head, lived in their usual retirement, and fed upon their very moderate allowance in their hall, while, to season their repast, a lecture was read from the bible, or from Ecclesiastical history.

In the same manner, the magnificence of their edifices was confined to their public parts, to the church, to the library, the cloisters, and the hall or refectory, but never pervaded the cell of the

monk, or emblazoned the bare walls of *his* humble dwelling. In fact, whether the income of the monastery were great or small, the furniture, diet, dress, and fate of the private monk were always the same, above penury, but far below luxury. In short, monks were generally, by birth and education, gentlemen, and their mode of living nearly resembling that of fellows of colleges: with this difference, that their engagements were for life, and that nothing but sickness could exempt them from constant residence, and from regular attendance in hall and in church.

This body, once so extensive and so powerful, is now reduced, and its history, like those of many potent empires, will shortly be a tale of days that are past.

To conclude.—There are in the religion of Italy some abuses, among which we may rank the multiplicity of ceremonies, and the introduction of theatrical exhibitions and music, into the church, and the unnecessary number of religious establishments. These abuses originate partly from the influence of the climate and the genius of the people, and partly from the natural effects of ages, which as they roll on, sometimes improve and sometimes deteriorate human institutions. The business of its reform must be left to the zeal of its pastors, to public opinion, and to time, who never fails himself to root up the weeds which he has planted.

Her Royal Highness had arranged to leave

Naples for Rome early in the month of April, on her return to the north of Italy by way of Rome, and to take shipping at Civita Vecchia, for Leghorn and Genoa. The time now approached, therefore, at which we were to take our leave of this city and the Felix Campania, and it was matter of regret to all, that circumstances had not permitted us to make our visit at a season and under circumstances which would have allowed us to prolong our stay for some months. The beauty of the country is unequalled, and leisure is required to see it in perfection; the climate is delicious, but to enjoy its sweets, leisure again is indispensable; excursions are both instructive and amusing, but here also leisure is essential both to pleasure and improvement: the heat of summer, tolerable to those who repose on the verge of the sea or in the numberless recesses of the bay and circumjacent islands, may be rendered insufferable by perpetual motion. Tours succeeding each other with little or no interval of repose, harass the body, and new objects crowding on each other too rapidly, leave nothing in the mind but confused images and recollections. In short, leisure is the very genius of the place: in this respect indeed, and in many others, Naples still retains its ancient character; the same ease, the same tranquillity, the same attachment to literary pursuits, and the same luxurious habits of the Greeks, so often ascribed to it by the ancients, still dis-

tinguish it, and render it, as formerly, the favourite retreat of the aged and the valetudinarian, the studious and the contemplative.

To enjoy such a place in all the vicissitudes of season and scenery; to observe such a people in all their variations of character; to visit all the towns and isles, and mountains of ancient fame without hurry or fatigue, is a most desirable object, and would fairly occupy a whole year, and fill up every day with pleasure and improvement. But our time was no longer at disposal for these desirable purposes; and Her Royal Highness having received the visits of ceremony of the resident nobility, and taken leave of their Majesties, we left Naples under a royal escort of honour, with Her Royal Highness's usual travelling carriages and equipments.

The first stage from Naples is Aversa: a few miles from thence we crossed the Chiagno, and proceeded rapidly over the plain of Campania. Passing through Capua, we entered the Falernian territory, and having crossed the river Savone, proceeded to Francolisci, whence ascending the hills, we took a parting view of the delicious region of which we were now about to take leave. We had traversed it in every direction, and examined its features in all their combinations. Plains shaded with rows of poplars and mulberry-trees; vines waving in garlands from tree to tree; hills clad with groves and studded with houses; mountains covered with forests;

and in the midst Vesuvius, lifting his scorched front, and looking down upon cities, towns, and villages, rising promiscuously at his base—Add to these, a sea that never swells with storms, a sky never darkened with clouds, and a sun that seldom withdraws his cheering beams—All these beauties, that pourtray Paradise to our fancy, and surpass at once the landscape of the painter and the descriptions of the poet, are all combined in the *garden* of Italy, the “Happy Campania.”

But the scenery was now fading from observation with the approach of evening, and a deep azure sky, bespangled with stars, all sparkling with a brilliancy unusual to our more troubled atmosphere, guided us on our way. Lighted by their beams, we crossed the river Liris. We just distinguished the black masses of Minturnæ on its banks, with the arches of a ruined aqueduct, and at a late hour entered Mola. We entered the Roman territory shortly after, and stopped for change of horses and refreshment at Terracina. We again passed Feronia, and crossed the Pomptine marshes with great rapidity. It had been Her Royal Highness's intention to pass the night at Velletri, in order to visit some interesting places in the neighbourhood, and at the same time to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Alban Mount, in our last passage over it; but in this we were disappointed: we entered Velletri rather late, and were obliged most reluctantly to pursue our journey in the darkness

of the night to Albano, and thence for a similar reason to Rome.

As we approached, the beams of the rising sun darted full on the portico of the Basilica Laterana, in itself a grand object, from its elevation and magnitude, and now rendered unusually splendid and majestic by the blaze of glory that seemed to play around it. The groves of verdure that arose on each side, and the dark arches of ruined aqueducts, bending above the trees, formed a striking contrast, and gave the approach a magnificence and solemnity highly conformable to the character and destinies of Rome.

I know not whether the traveller is not more struck with the appearance of Rome on his return from Naples, than he was on his first entrance. Not to speak of the grandeur of the objects that meet his eye, even at the gate, and are certainly well calculated to make a strong impression, it has been justly observed that the stir, the animation, the gaiety, that pervade the streets of Naples, still fresh in his recollection, contrast singularly with the silence and solemnity that seem to reign undisturbed over all the quarters of Rome. The effect of this contrast is increased by the different style of building, the solidity and magnitude of Roman edifices, and the huge masses of ruin that rise occasionally to view, like monuments of a superior race of beings. We seem in our journey to have passed over, not miles, but ages, and arrived at a mansion

where the agitations of the present are absorbed in the contemplation of the past, and the passions of this world lost in the interests of that which is to succeed it. Rome is not therefore, like Naples, the seat of mirth and dissipation, of public amusement, or even of private conviviality. The severe majesty that seems to preside as the genius of the place, proscribes frivolity, and inspires loftiness of thought and gravity of deportment. It imposes, even on scenes of relaxation, a certain restraint, that without infringing on the ease of conversation and the confidence of familiar intercourse, gives a serious bias to the mind, and disposes it imperceptibly to reflection.

Her Royal Highness's present stay at Rome was now merely that which was required for the completion of the arrangements necessary to comfort on the sea trip from Civita Vecchia to Genoa. Two days were thus occupied, and on the third we quitted Rome for Civita Vecchia, where Her Royal Highness had given directions for the *Clorinde* British frigate to be in readiness to receive her.

We were now on the eve of a more active change of scene, and such as might be supposed congenial to our natural habits; but we did not leave Rome without many regrets. As we rolled under the arch of the *Porta del Popolo*, and heard the gates close behind us; as we passed the *Ponte Milvio*, and looked down on the Tiber

flowing dimly beneath; our feelings of regret redoubled, and all the magnificence of Rome, now left behind perhaps for ever, presented itself once more to our recollection.

The weather was delightfully serene, and nature appeared in all the beauty and freshness of the season and the climate. We had now entered Etruria, and were traversing a country celebrated in the early records of Rome for many a furious combat, and many an heroic achievement. On this ground the Romans defended their newly acquired liberty with all the intrepidity which the first taste of such a blessing inspires. Here they triumphed over Tarquin and his allies, and here their leader and consul, Brutus, sealed their freedom with his blood.

All this territory, the object of so much contention and bloodshed, is now a desert. Even its capital, which stood so long the rival and terror of Rome itself, has totally perished, nor has it left a vestige to mark its real situation. The city we speak of is the ancient Veii. Antiquarian research has not been able to determine even its probable situation with precision: it seems however to have been about twelve miles from Rome. How humiliating and melancholy is the reflection, that two thousand years have so completely swept away the labour of man, that it is now with considerable doubt that a few shapeless masses of rubbish are pointed out as the only remains of a city once superior even to Rome

itself in magnificence, and possessing strength and resources which enabled it for ten years to resist the utmost efforts of a disciplined army of fifty thousand men.

We travelled through the night, and at the dawn of morning Aurora, such as painters have contemplated, and vainly endeavoured to represent, shed over the Sabine mountains a rich glow gradually softening into purple, lining with gold the fleecy clouds that strewed her paths, and at length poured a stream of the brightest saffron over all the eastern sky. The tints that gild the clouds, even in our northern climate, are rich and varied; but the deep purple distances of the horizon, and the glowing yellow of the firmament in Italy, far, very far surpass ours in hue and splendour, and produce that airiness of perspective, that lucid atmosphere, which is so truly termed in painting an *Italian* sky. In the contemplation of this beautiful and ever varying phenomenon, we drove till we reached the next post, and thence enjoyed the glorious spectacle of the rising sun, till, concealing himself in a golden fringed cloud, as in a chariot, he darted his rays from behind it, and set as it were the whole firmament in a blaze.

The voyage (if a sea trip of about two hundred miles can be so called) was not so replete with novelty and incident as our usual journeys and excursions on terra firma. I am however bound to except the continual pleasure and as-

tonishment which an English landsman experiences in a British ship of war; the discipline and regularity of the crew, the alacrity of obedience to orders, the (to him) incomprehensible terms of those orders, the magical ease and rapidity with which the immense structure is managed and manœuvred, and the seeming irresistible nature of the vessel, occupy him for some time with a strange mixture of fear and wonder, which after a short experience subsides into quiet admiration, and he reflects with a feeling of pride and exultation that such are the scenes of his country's boast and national glory, and that the agents are his brethren and countrymen.

The *Clorinde* frigate was commanded by Captain Pechell, by whom every arrangement was made for the comfort and accommodation of Her Royal Highness and her suite, which the size and circumstances of the ship could be made to afford. The state cabin of the frigate was divided, and one portion appropriated to Her Royal Highness's use as a sleeping apartment, the opposite portion of the divided cabin remaining in the occupation of Captain Pechell and his brother. Our trip was made in pleasant weather, and occupied from Civita Vecchia to Genoa three days and nights. The coast we sailed along occasionally presented the most delightful scenes and views. On our arrival, Lady Charlotte Lindsay, called to England on urgent family concerns, quitted Her Royal Highness for a short period.

Leghorn, in Italian Livorno, never seems to have attained any consideration, but remained a petty village almost immersed in swamps and sea-weeds, till the seventeenth century, when the Medicean princes turned their attention to its port, and by a series of regulations, equally favourable to the interest and feelings of the mercantile body, made it the mart of the Mediterranean commerce. The insignificant village has now risen into a considerable, airy, and well built city, with streets wide and straight, a noble square, fourteen churches, two Greek, and one Armenian chapel, a magnificent synagogue, a good harbour, and a population of thirty thousand souls. It is well fortified, and has in every respect the appearance of prosperity. Its principal church is collegiate; and the constant residence of the canons fixes several men of learning in the town. There are in Leghorn no antiquities to occupy the classic traveller, but it has good accommodations. The view of the town, spread over a flat coast, and thence extending its villas over a fine range of hills that advanced into the sea on the south, all kindled by the beams of the setting sun, afforded a most striking and delightful view from the sea. We glided along the coast, which is flat, but watered by many important and beautiful streams. The river Versiglia is of this description particularly. A little beyond this river a ridge of rocky mountains projects into the sea, and forms the

promontory of Luna, the eastern boundary of the gulf of Spezzia.

This magnificent bay, which forms one of the finest harbours in Europe, enjoys the peculiar advantage of having a most abundant spring of fresh water rising almost in its centre. This fountain, so remarkable for its position, seems to have been produced by some convulsion in latter times, as there is no mention made of it in ancient authors. The bay is nearly encircled by lofty mountains, for the Apennines approach the sea towards Carrara, and continue with little interruption to line the coast till they join the maritime Alps beyond Genoa, appearing all along in their most rugged and forbidding form, with no woods and little vegetation. However, about Carrara they make up for the want of external decorations by the valuable quarries of marble, so well known, and now, as anciently, so highly valued by sculptors and architects. We passed along under a fine breeze, and about five o'clock in the evening of a delightful day entered the harbour of Genoa. This harbour is in the form of an amphitheatre: Genoa occupies one side, and spreads her streets and churches, and then her suburbs and villas, over a vast semicircular tract of crags, rocks, and declivities. Its white buildings ascending one above the other, make a splendid show, and give it an appearance of much magnificence. The interior of Genoa does not, in my opinion, correspond with its exterior gran-

deur. Like Vienna, it is composed of well-built lanes, and contains no wide, and only three beautiful streets, the Strada Balbi, Strada Nova, and the Strada Novissima. The Strada Balbi commences from a square, called the Piazza Verde, surrounded with trees of no very luxuriant growth, though at one end a magnificent double flight of stairs and houses, gardens and churches, intermingled, and rising in terraces one above the other, give it a pleasing and romantic appearance. The same street terminates in another square, called Piazza del Fontane Amore. These three streets, though not sufficiently wide perhaps for our taste, especially considering the elevation of the buildings that border them, are, strictly speaking, composed of lines of vast and lofty palaces, some of which are entirely of marble, and all ornamented with marble portals, porticos, and columns. The interior of these mansions is seldom unworthy of their external appearance. Marble staircases, with bronze ballustres, conduct to spacious saloons, which open into each other in a long series, and are all adorned with the most splendid marbles and tapestries, with many valuable pictures, gilded cornishes, and panels. Among these palaces, many of which are fit to lodge the first sovereigns in Europe, and indeed better calculated for that purpose than most transalpine palaces, those of Doria, of Sera, of Balbi, and of Durazzo, may perhaps be mentioned as

pre-eminent in magnificence. The churches are numerous, and as splendid as marble, gilding, and painting can make them, but have seldom any claims to architectural beauty. In truth, ornament and glare seem to be the principal ingredients of beauty in the opinion of the Genoese; and this their prevailing taste has almost entirely banished the first of architectural graces, simplicity, both from their palaces and from their churches. Among the former, the palace of Durazzo, in the Strada Balbi; and among the latter, the church of Corignano, possess most of that quality so essential to greatness. A few remarks on these two edifices may enable the reader to form a general idea of others of the same kind. The palace of the Durazzo family was erected by the celebrated Fontana: the length and elevation of its immense front astonish the spectator, who perhaps can scarce find in his memory a similar building of equal magnitude. The portico, which is wide and spacious, conducts to a staircase, each step of which is formed of a single block of Carrara marble. A large antichamber then leads to ten saloons, either opening into one another, or communicating by spacious galleries. These saloons are all on a grand scale in all their proportions, adorned with pictures and busts, and fitted up with prodigious richness both in decorations and furniture. One of them surpasses in the splendour of its gildings any thing of the kind I believe in Europe. These

apartments open on a terrace, which commands an extensive view of the bay, with its moles and light-house, and the rough coast that borders it on one side.

In this palace the Emperor Joseph was lodged during his short visit to Genoa, and is reported to have acknowledged that it far surpassed any that he was master of. The merit of this compliment is, that it is strictly true, for few sovereigns are worse accommodated with royal residences than the Austrian princes. The imperial palace at Vienna is a gloomy plastered barrack; that in the suburbs is not superior as an edifice to that called the Queen's palace at Windsor; and the castle of Laxenburg, which has long been the favourite residence, is inferior in size, appearance, and furniture, to the family seat of many an English country gentleman.

The palace of Domenico Serra contains one of the richest and most beautiful apartments in Genoa. The palace allotted to the Doge is spacious and ancient, but inferior in beauty to most of the mansions of the great families. The hall, however, in which the senate anciently assembled, is a most superb apartment; in length one hundred and twenty-five feet, in breadth forty-five, and in height sixty-six: its roof is supported by pillars and pilasters; the space between contains niches, which were once graced with the statues of the eminent men of the republic.

We now pass the church called Di Carignano. In his way to this edifice, the traveller will behold with astonishment a bridge of the same name thrown over (not a river, but) a deep dell, now a street, and, looking over the parapet, he will see with surprise the roofs of several houses of six stories high lying far beneath him. This bridge consists of three wide arches. The view from this church is one of the finest in the neighbourhood of Genoa, as it includes the city, the port, and the moles, with all the surrounding hills.

Genoa is surrounded by a double wall or rampart; the one encloses the town only, and is about six miles in circuit; the other takes a much more extensive range, and, covering the hills that command the city, forms a circumference of thirteen miles. The interior fortification terminates in a point beyond the summit of the hill, and is supposed, or rather proved by modern experience, to be of very considerable strength. As we rode round these extensive works, we were amused partly by the contrast of the bleak barren hills that rose above us, with the splendour and beauty of the city, its suburbs, and its harbour, that lay expanded; and partly by the accounts which our guides gave us of the French and Austrian positions, and of the various vicissitudes of the siege. These anecdotes interested us at the moment, because the event was comparatively recent, and we had the theatre of the contest before our eyes; but the siege of Genoa, after

all, was a petty occurrence in the history of a campaign, that, after more than twice ten centuries of contest, laid the glories of Italy at the feet of the Gauls, and opened the garden of Europe again to devastation.

Genoa presents no vestige of antiquity ; if ever she possessed magnificent edifices or trophies of glory, they have long since mouldered in the dust, or been swept away by the waves. Her name alone remains, and that name she has ennobled since the fall of the empire, by a series of great achievements abroad, and at home by an almost uninterrupted display of industrious exertions, bold speculations, and wise counsils. Genoa is one of the three great republics which during the middle ages (that is, at a period when the rest of Europe was immersed in slavery, ignorance, and barbarism) made Italy the seat of liberty, of science, and of civilization, and enabled her, though bereft of general empire, not only to outshine contemporary powers, but even to rival, at least in military fame and domestic policy, the glories of Greece herself in her most brilliant era. Of these republics, Venice was undoubtedly the first, and Genoa confessedly the second.

These honours she acquired by her commerce, and by her fleets, which enabled her often to dispute, and frequently to share the empire of the seas with her adversary. At one period indeed the Ligurian capital had for some time the ad-

vantage, and reigned the undisputed Queen of the Mediterranean.

About half a mile from the gate of Genoa is the village, or rather suburb of *San Pier d'Arena* : its situation on the coast, and close to the *Polcevera*, rendered it once a place of great resort, and many palaces and villas remain as monuments of its magnificence. *Villa Imperiale* is its principal ornament : it is said to have been planned by *Palladio*, and has two regular rows of *Corinthian* and *Ionic* columns, an arrangement both simple and majestic. But this superb edifice is neglected, and, like many others around it, apparently falling to ruins. The valley of the *Polcevera* is in the neighbourhood, and is so called from the torrent (*Polcevera*) that intersects it. This stream had disappeared, and left nothing but its broad rocky channel : it is said however to return sometimes with such rapidity, as to carry off travellers crossing its channel, and loitering in the passage ; a circumstance that occasioned many disasters, when the road lay in the very bed itself of the river. The *Austrians*, when driven out of the city by the spirited efforts of its inhabitants in the year 1746, encamped in the channel of the *Polcevera*, which was then dry, but were alarmed in the middle of the night by the roaring of the torrent, descending in vast sheets from the mountains, and sweeping men, horses, and even rocks before it. The army extricated itself from this dangerous

situation with difficulty, and not without the loss of several hundred men.

The bridge thrown over the Polcevera at Cornigliano is a monument of the munificence of a nobleman of the Gentile family. To the honour of the Genoese nobility, the same may be said of the excellent road that leads from San Pier d'Arena to Campo Marone. This road follows the banks of the Polcevera, forming a long winding defile, beautifully diversified with villas and gardens, cypresses, olives and vineyards. The soil is indeed naturally a dry naked rock, but industry, protected by liberty, has covered it with verdure and fertility.

Immediately on leaving Campo Marone, the first stage, the traveller begins to ascend the steep of the Bocchetta, one of the loftiest of the maritime Apennines, or rather Alps (for so the ridge of mountains to the west of Portus Delphinus, now Porto Fino, was anciently called.) The lower and middle regions of this mountain are well peopled, well cultivated, and shaded by groves of lofty chesnuts. In this respect it resembles the Apennines, but its upper parts are totally alpine, rough, wild and barren.

The Bocchetta is one of the great bulwarks of Genoa. It was in the late war occupied by the French, but was forced by the Austrians. The trenches and mounds thrown up by the former

are still discernible, and may be traced for a considerable distance, forming altogether a barrier almost insuperable. The French army was at least fifteen thousand men strong, furnished with artillery, and every article of ammunition in abundance, and commanded by a General of experience, and of acknowledged intrepidity. Yet with all these advantages, their entrenchments were forced, and they were compelled to shelter themselves behind the ramparts of Genoa, by an enemy not twice their number!

CHAPTER XVII.

Her Royal Highness's Residence at Genoa—Her Visitants and Society.—The Route from Genoa to Milan—Novi—Marengo—Great Beauty of the surrounding Country.—Pavia.—The Magnificence of the Abbey of Chiaravalle.—Arrival at Milan—Tour to Mount St. Gothard. Leave Milan for the Lake of Como—Her Royal Highness establishes a Residence at the Villa d'Este, on the Lake.

THE house occupied by Her Royal Highness during her stay at Genoa was situated about half an English mile distant from the city, in a quarter of the suburbs thickly and respectably inhabited. Our residence in Genoa did not much exceed six weeks, but during that period Her Royal Highness was brilliant and cheerful: she was visited by all the British and foreign nobility of the place, and the superior officers attached to the army.

Early in the month of June we left Genoa for Milan, Her Royal Highness having determined to establish a residence on the Lake of Como, to visit Venice, and to make some tours to Mount St. Gothard, and other of the interesting scenes of Switzerland.

On the road to Milan, a few miles further on, lies Novi, a small busy town, the last of the

Genoese territory, where several of the nobles have villas, in which they used to pass the spring and autumn.

The road from Novi to Alessandria, crosses a plain, fertile and well cultivated, but sandy and rather naked. The ruins of the citadel of Tortona, demolished by the French, lie extended over the side of a distant hill, and from their magnitude and whiteness present a grand and striking spectacle. The fatal plain of Marengo is in the immediate vicinity, where the fortune of Buonaparte triumphed over the skill and valour of the Austrians, and obtained that celebrated victory. This event is inscribed in Latin, Italian, and French, on the pedestal of a Doric pillar, erected on the high road in the little village of Marengo: a few skulls, collected in digging the foundation, and now ranged in order round the pedestal, form a savage but appropriate ornament to this monument.

The village of Marengo is about two miles from Alessandria. The Bormida, in summer a shallow stream, spread over a wide channel intersected with little islands, and lined with willows, flows within half a mile of the latter. Alessandria is merely a fortress, and remarkable only for the sieges which it has sustained: it was built in the twelfth century, and takes its name from the then Pope, Alexander III.

The road now lies through Tortono and Voghiera. On the route to Milan, the road traverses

one of the most fertile as well as beautiful parts of the celebrated plain watered by the Po and the Tessino, with their many tributary streams, and which is bounded by the Alps and the Apennines. No country in the world perhaps enjoys more advantages than this extensive and delicious vale. Irrigated by rivers that never fail, it is clad even in the burning months of July and August with perpetual verdure, and displays, after a whole season of scorching sunshine, the deep green carpet of the vernal months. Even in the beginning of October, autumn scarcely tinges its woods, while the purple and yellow flowers of spring still variegate its rich grassy meadows. The climate, like that of Italy at large, is uniform and serene; but as the more southern provinces are refreshed during the sultry season by a breeze from the sea, so these plains are cooled by gales that blow constantly from the bordering mountains. Hence the traveller, who has been panting and melting away in the glowing atmosphere of Florence and Genoa, no sooner crosses the Apennines, and descends into the Milanese country, than he finds himself revived and braced by a freshness, which is the more agreeable and unexpected, because he still continues to enjoy the same unclouded sky, and bright azure firmament. Nor is this vale so deficient as plains, if extensive, usually are in interest; or like the Netherlands, a lifeless level where no swell presents itself to attract the eye

and to vary the sullen uniformity. The plains of the Po, enclosed between two chains of vast mountains, always have one, and sometimes both of those romantic and beautiful objects in view, while numberless ramifications branching from them, intersect the adjacent countries in all directions, and adorn them with ridges of hills that diminish in size and elevation, as they are more distant from the parent mountains.

The road from Novi to Pavia presents on the right many of these eminences, resembling the hills of Surry, and, like them, adorned with trees, churches, villas, &c. As we approached the Po, we found the roads deep and sandy: the river, though reduced by the dryness of the season to the deepest part of the channel, is yet a majestic stream; we passed it on a flying bridge, and admired its banks as we glided across. As they are low, they are susceptible of one species of ornament only, which consists of groves of forest trees that shade its margin, and as they hang over it, and sometimes bathe their branches in its waves, enliven it by the reflection of their thick and verdant foliage.

Pavia is an ancient and celebrated city, which has in its time produced many men eminent in every branch of literature and science, and is still supplied with professors of talents and of reputation. It has a noble library, grand halls, for lectures, anatomical galleries, a botanical garden, and several well-endowed colleges: yet

with all this, its schools are not much frequented, and indeed the very streets of the town seem solitary and forsaken.

About four miles from Pavia stands the abbey Chiaravalle, once celebrated for its riches and magnificence. It belonged to the Carthusian monks, and on the suppression of the order by the Emperor Joseph, passed with a property of twenty thousand pounds per annum to government: of this sum about five hundred pounds per annum was annexed to the hospital of Pavia; of the disposal of the remainder, which without doubt was equally appropriate and benevolent, there is, I believe, at present nothing on record.

A fine avenue of limes and poplars, shedding a religious gloom on the traveller as he drives under them, leads to the arched entrance, opening into a spacious court, with the church full in the front. This edifice is of Gothic and Saxon architecture intermingled: its walls are of solid white marble, lined within with various kinds of precious stone. Sculpture and carving, whether in marble, gems, or metals, are here displayed in all their pomp, and oftentimes in all their excellency.

From Chiaravalle, the remainder of the distance to Milan, about ten miles, is a fine smooth and level road, with little extraordinary diversity. The face of nature is now changed, to a traveller from the southern regions of Italy; but it is still beautiful, if not indeed improved.

On the shores of the lakes in the north of the

Milanese, on the frontiers of Switzerland, oriental luxuriance and Alpine grandeur unite to form the fairest scenes with which the globe is embellished. The lofty mountains, where dwells eternal winter, and the fertile plains, "the green abodes of life," are brought together, as if by magic; and every various tint that colours the surface of the earth every beautiful form that adorns it, are presented, in blended succession, to the eye. The plants of the northern and southern climates mingle their perfumes in the same valley: the orange-tree grows by the side of the fir, and the citron by the side of the cytissus.

The natural advantages and enchanting scenery of the lakes of Upper Italy, have long since attracted a numerous population to their shores. The hills are covered with habitations, which are not palaces, for the grounds attached to them would not have been sufficiently extensive; neither are they cottages, for the inhabitants are too wealthy not to bestow some expence on their residences. They are small, but elegant and commodious dwellings, having nothing rustic about them but their beautiful situation, and the trellises by which they are shaded. They are surrounded by orchards, rising on terraces one above the other, in which the fruits of Europe and of Asia grow together; while the streamlets which descend from the Alps bring with them the limpid coolness of their ices, and the murmur of their cascades.

During Her Royal Highness's stay at Genoa, some of the suite being desirous of an excursion along the sea coast towards Spezia, I accompanied the party. We set out from Genoa, along the road by the sea side, called La Cornice. At present this road is a mere path, which is traced along the shore, or on the side of the mountains; but it is forming into a noble terrace, encircling the gulf, and thus uniting Italy to France. Some parts of it are already completed; but as they do not join, I could not profit by them, and therefore accompanied the courier, who still passes this way on horseback.

It was a holiday, and the whole population of Genoa was come forth to breathe, during a fine evening, the refreshing breeze from the sea, and the perfume of the orange-trees. The sun was setting behind the mountains, and a semi-tint was beginning to steal over the villas built on their sides, so that I could scarcely distinguish the fresco paintings with which their fronts were ornamented. Elegantly dressed women, attracted by the galloping of our horses, were peeping out from the numerous arbours which bordered the road side. They were not, as formerly, enveloped in a veil which concealed their whole figure. They had renounced the shawls, known by the name of *mezzaros*, which, it is said, were not unfrequently employed for purposes of coquetry, and were dressed in the French style.

After an hour's riding, we were obliged to

slacken our pace, the new road terminating here, and quitted these environs, so highly embellished by art, at the close of day. Our road was now a rocky path, the windings of which led us sometimes through woods of olive-trees, and at others along the sea-shore. It was perfectly dark. The inhabitants had all retired to their dwellings. The plants which grew along our path exhaled their nameless odours: the nightingales, concealed amidst the foliage of the trees, poured forth their songs; and innumerable fire-flies, fluttering from flower, to flower, illumined their blossoms with a transient light, and seemed, as it were, a shower of stars descended upon earth to cheer the night.

Trusting to my horse's acquaintance with the road, I threw the reins upon his neck, and committed myself without fear to his guidance. I inhaled the air, cooled by the freshness of the evening, but still soft and tepid. I listened to the murmur of the sea as it broke gently on the shore; for such was the serenity of the weather, that its waves, though coming from the main, made no more noise than the rippling of a brook. I would fain have stopped to enjoy, without interruption, the various sensations occasioned by this scene of repose. All nature seemed to speak a language in unison with the clearness of the sky and the calmness of the sea. The deliciousness of the climate and the perfume of the flowers conspired to create around me an

ideal world, which my fancy embellished at pleasure.

The rising sun revealed all the magnificence of the scene which surrounded me. I was then near Sestri, on one of the terraces recently cut in the rock, in the line of the projected road, whence the view commanded the sea. It was less calm than the evening before; and its waves, raised by the southern wind, broke at the foot of the rocks, and bedewed the shrubs which grew in their clefts with spray. The mists of the morning were spreading in silver tints over the sides of the mountains; and villas, embosomed in vines and fig-trees, were seen, here and there, in their recesses. They were decorated with frescoes, which deceived the eye with the appearance of a noble architecture; and their flat roofs were surrounded by a balustrade, covered with jasmine and creeping plants. All around the surface of the earth presented nothing but naked sterility, or useless show. The mountains of Genoa seem intended to evince that nature occasionally delights to invest herself in pomp, without any purpose of utility. The vegetables which serve to support life are utterly excluded, while those which are only ornamental grow in profusion. We find neither harvest nor fruits amidst these rocks, but every plant is a flower, every shrub a laurel.

I travelled all day along narrow paths, amidst the magnificence of this sterile region. I could

with difficulty procure any refreshment in the miserable dwellings at which we stopped, nor did our horses find a better supply on the hills where they were turned to graze.

Her Royal Highness passed the months of April and May in Genoa and its vicinity, after which we remained near two months in Milan, whence frequent excursions were made to the interesting points of the surrounding country, and the principal towns and cities of the north of Italy. The stupendous and remarkable passes of the Alps, the Simplon and St. Gothard, were explored, and every object visited, the importance or curiosity of which was calculated to gratify the enquiring mind, or afford tasteful amusement. The great road, or passage of the Simplon, was the first of these tours of observation.

Our party, properly equipped, and provided for so laborious an undertaking, set out from Domo d'Ossola (to which we had repaired as a point of starting) before day-break, in delightful weather. In the grey of the morning we saw the road was winding along the side of an immense mountain, with a deep ravine below, in which we heard the noise of water, and I saw immense forests of firs above, in which the wind was making mournful music. We were just then crossing a compact strong-built bridge, over a gulf of eighty feet in depth. A few minutes afterwards we arrived at one of the houses of refuge, which were placed at certain distances by the makers

of the road, to give reception to travellers whose horses might be spent, or who, in bad weather, might be unable to proceed, from the accidents of water, snow, or falling stones. They are all numbered, and inscribed, REFUGE. There are, I think, seven of them, and are numbered in order; there are also some larger desolate-looking buildings on the Italian side, for receiving carts and merchandize in case of need. At one of these houses of refuge there is also the relay of post-horses; and you can be accommodated with coffee in summer, and brandy in winter. A man was lighting a fire in the first room, which looked something like a strong room in a prison. He invited us to the *chambre chaude*, (a hot room) and opened a door, whence a suffocating air came forth. A kind of narrow trough is built into the wall, where wood is put and lighted, and the heat diffuses itself through the stone.

Our horses having eaten their grain, we proceeded on our ascent, which is very gradual and equal; sufficient to check the pace of the horses, but by no means fatiguing. The windings are beyond conception, and you are placed by them frequently in a position so as to look back upon the spiral line you have been pursuing, lying like a bordering of ribbon, on the sides of the vast mountain. You see the houses of refuge below you, dwindled to points, and can scarcely discover the cabins, dispersed at little distances up and down in which the French engineers

resided when employed in making the road. Opposite, that is to say, on the other side of the deep ravine and torrent which form the bottom of the immense precipice, on the very border of which carriages; proceed, with only small stones for a fence, and sometimes not even that, runs the old road over the Simplon. It was not practicable for carriages and to look at it, like a line amongst frightful rocks, it would not seem safe even for horses.

The general characteristics of the road on the Valais side, are forests of fir above and below, and torrents carried below the road by excellently built aqueducts. Once or twice the turning of the road is sufficiently favourable to open on the view of the traveller the whole length of the ravine, from his feet to the very bottom of the mountain, with the town of Breig, the valley of the Rhone, and its blue stream, at an immeasurable distance, rendered in effect still greater than it is in reality, by the circumvolving line of road, lying like coils all the way down the lofty Alps, and surrounding the valley on that side. These views are of extreme beauty. At many places, the firs above and below stand in the most grotesque positions, and present the most battered appearances, from having had to sustain the shock of avalanches, or of falling rocks. How withered, desolate, and wild they appear! One or two had been broken in the middle, but not broken quite off, and were lying

creaking in the wind, supporting themselves on the others. The sun lights up the snowy tops of the Alps, of a beautiful golden colour. The clouds of early morning roll among the hills, and take a silver hue, betwixt water and fleece.

As you advance towards the summit of the road, you pass close under the glacier of Kaltwasser, from whence several cascades descend; and, on the other hand, you see the glaciers that lie on the highest points of the Simplon. If there is snow on the mountain, as there was when we passed, the glacier renders itself discernible by the blue colour of its ice. The absolute height of the mountain is said to be 6174 feet above the level of the sea: the highest point of the road is probably about 5000. As you approach the top, the wind blows cold and fiercely from the summit. After descending a little, you see the hospital, a high, narrow, wild-looking building, situated below you on the right. A new one, on the new road, has been begun, but is left with only the first story raised. There are only two priests stationed at the hospital, to receive travellers. They shelter the poor, they give them bread, meat, and wine, with a bed, if required. The rich are not solicited, but give liberally. It is out of their own funds that the fathers do this, with a little assistance from government.

Descending still, we arrived at the village of Simplon, at a height of 4548 feet above the level of the sea. The snow here is very deep, and lies

at least half the year. The distance from Breig to the village of Simplon is eight leagues, of which six are ascent, and two descent ; from the Simplon to Domo d'Ossola, at the bottom of the mountain on the Italian side, the distance is between six and seven leagues, making the passage of the mountain between fourteen and fifteen leagues. The journey may be easily performed in eleven or twelve hours. It is with reference to this side that we may most suitably speak of the wonders of this great work. The Italian engineers had by far the most difficult task to perform. At every step, we see evidence of the prodigious struggle between the art of man, and the obduracy and powers of nature in her most savage holds. The road may be said to be entirely cut into the solid rock ; and yet never, or scarce ever, among these prodigious precipices and cliffs that suspend destruction, does it hasten or slacken its equal slope. The galleries or passages through the heart of rocks on the Valais side, though wonderful, are as nothing, when compared with those on the Italian side. You enter the rock, are enclosed in on both sides and over head, but pursue a road as smooth and more broad than that without.

Soon after leaving the village of the Simplon two considerable mountain-torrents, rushing by two frightful openings into the unknown seclusions of the Alps, form by their union the Veniola, which ranks between a river and a torrent as to

size, and which goes rushing and roaring amongst rocks and huge stones, close by the side of the road, to within a league of Domo d'Ossola, where the road crosses it on a superb bridge, and afterwards leaves it. Sometimes it washes the road, sometimes sinks to a frightful depth beneath it, while from the windows of your carriage you see the white foam of its boiling eddies. On the two sides, the stupendous mountain rises in perpendicular walls of black rock, and huge masses are frequently suspended over the head of the traveller, who seeing around him the tremendous fragments that have already fallen, cannot, without apprehensions for his safety, consider the possibility of others falling. On the other side, footpaths frightfully suspended lead into the interior of the Alps, where villages are to be seen in situations where they appear as if hung upon the crags, and where it is difficult to divine the occupation and resources of their inhabitants. Picturesque but crazy bridges sometimes cross the torrent from these paths, forming a striking contrast with those master-pieces of modern engineering, of which the new road furnishes so many examples. When the traveller, already weary and worn with toil, contemplates the wild and terrific scene which is spread around him, as if in derision of his powers and his efforts—when he sees rocks towering above him a thousand feet high, which seem as if they would close above his head, and engulf him for ever—a

vast torrent roaring and boiling below, threatening to undermine the rocks which support him—huge buttresses of granite projecting from the face of the precipice in the most fantastic and appalling forms, and hanging over the water—cascades, of various character and appearances, pouring and darting down to join it from the loftiest peaks above,—he cannot conceive the possibility that his progress can be continued through such obstacles. It does so nevertheless, and with security the road winds along, preserving the same equal slope, sometimes supported by a wall over the water, sometimes scooped into the side of the mountain, in other places running abruptly into the heart of the rock, through a seemingly impenetrable darkness, and thence again emerging into the open air and light. The longest of these passages or galleries is provided with three tunnels or apertures to admit light, and through these a view is obtained of the river down the precipice. It is altogether an immense undertaking, and no less honourable to the projectors, and useful, than prodigious as a work of art. The rock is for the most part compact and solid, and cut so as to leave a smooth and equal face.

During Her Royal Highness's stay at Milan, we made an excursion to the Lago Maggiore, which has been already described, in order to visit the Isola Bella, on which the Borromean palace is situated: these superb and interesting

objects having been particularly dwelt upon, when speaking of our first entrance into Italy, it will only be necessary here to say that Her Royal Highness visited the lake and the Borromean Islands. This visit was made on our return from a tour to survey the general scenery and appearance of the Alps, and their principal defiles or passages. The roads over or rather through these immense and terrific regions are not to be supposed to be over the ridges and summits of any of the hills, but are merely the most commodious arrangements and improvements of the paths, which from time immemorial have run through the chasms or defiles between them. Of this description are the famous passes of Mount Cenis, the Simplon, St. Bernard, and St. Gothard.

Her Royal Highness remained some weeks resident at Milan, during negotiations for the purchase of, and the necessary arrangements for completing and beautifying the Villa d'Este, on the Lake of Como, at which she had now determined to form an establishment, and to make it a place of settled residence. The Lake of Como has been already generally described. Her Royal Highness's residence is known by the name of the Villa d'Este, and was purchased of the Countess Pino. It is situated on the very margin of this beautiful lake, and when viewed from a distant point, its entire elevation reflected in the placid waters from which it seems to rise,

and surmounted by the wild but magnificent scenery of the hills, interspersed with tasteful erections, and crowned with hanging woods and gardens, it composes a scene of great beauty! The banks every where slope gently to the verge of the water, and they are covered with all the luxuriance of vegetation. Fields of deep verdure are bordered by lofty trees; hills are covered with thickets, villas shaded by pines and poplars; distant villages, encircled with vineyards, strike the eye in every direction, and present a continual picture of fertility and happiness.

The improvements made in the interior of this edifice, so beautifully situated, were in a corresponding style of good taste and regard to picturesque effect: the simple villa soon assumed in Her Royal Highness's possession the air and magnificence of an elegant little palace. An avenue of trees, extending from Como, a distance of two miles, was planted with great judgment and effect; and other undertakings were projected, indicating the taste and the rank of its new possessor.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Her Majesty proceeds to Venice.—Description of the Cities on the route—Verona—Its noble Amphitheatre.—Vicenza—Remarkable for its grand Olympic Theatre and Academy.—Arrival at Venice—Description of the City—Character, Manners, and Customs of the Venitians—Padua—Mantua.—Her Majesty determines on an extensive Tour to Greece and the Holy Land.

SHORTLY after Her Majesty had completed the improvements of Villa d'Este, and become resident at that delightful spot, it was determined to visit the famous Venice, taking in the route the ancient and interesting cities Verona and Vicenza.

Verona is beautifully situated on the river Adige, partly on the declivity of a hill which forms the last swell of the Alps, and partly on the skirts of an immense plain, extending from these mountains to the Apennines. The hills behind are adorned with villas and gardens, where the graceful cypress and tall poplar predominate over the bushy ilex and spreading bay-tree.

The plains before the city are streaked with rows of mulberry-trees, and shaded with vines climbing from branch to branch, and spreading in garlands from tree to tree. The devastation

of war disfigured this scenery, by stripping several villas, levelling many groves, and rooting up whole rows of vines and mulberry-trees; but the hand of industry has already repaired these ravages, and restored to the neighbouring hills and fields their beauty and fertility. The interior of the town is worthy of its situation. It is divided into two unequal parts by the Adige, which sweeps through it in a bold curve, and forms a peninsula, within which the whole of the ancient and greater parts of the modern city are inclosed. The river is wide and rapid. The streets, as in all continental towns, are narrower than ours, but long, straight, well built, and frequently presenting, in the form of the doors and windows, and in the ornaments of their cases, fine proportions and beautiful workmanship. But besides these advantages, one of the noblest monuments of Roman magnificence now existing is its amphitheatre, which, although inferior in size, is equal in materials and solidity to the Coliseum at Rome. We hastened to this celebrated monument, and passed the greater part of the morning in climbing its seats and ranging over its spacious arena. The external circumference, forming the ornamental part, has been destroyed long ago, with the exception of one piece of wall, containing three stories of four arches, rising to the height of more than eighty feet. The pilasters and decorations of the outside were Tuscan, an order well adapted, by its solidity and

massiveness, to such vast fabrics. Forty-five ranges of seats, rising from the arena to the top of the second story of outward arches, remain entire, with their respective staircases and galleries of communication. The whole is formed of vast blocks of marble, and presents such a mass of compact solidity, as seems calculated to defy the influence of time. To give a general idea of its vastness, we may say that the outward circumference is 1290 feet, the length of the arena 218, and its breadth 129, and that the seats are capable of containing 22,000 spectators. At either end is a great gate, and over each a modern balustrade with an inscription, informing the traveller that two exhibitions of a very different nature took place in the amphitheatre some years ago. The one was a bull-baiting, exhibited in honour of the emperor Joseph, then at Verona, by the governor and people. The other exhibition, though of a very different nature, was perhaps equally interesting. The late pope, in his German excursion, passed through Verona, and was requested by the magistrates to give the people an opportunity of testifying in public their veneration for his sacred person: He accordingly appeared in the amphitheatre, selected on account of its capacity as the properest place, and when the shouts of acclamation had subsided, poured forth his benediction on the prostrate multitude collected from all the neighbouring provinces to receive it.

The French applied the amphitheatre to a very different purpose. Shortly after their entrance into Verona, they erected a temporary theatre near one of the grand portals above mentioned, and caused several farces and pantomimes to be acted in it, for the amusement of the army!

Before leaving Verona, our last visit, as our first, was to the amphitheatre: we passed some hours, as before, in a very delightful manner; sometimes reclining on the middle seats, and admiring the capaciousness, the magnitude, and the durability of the vast edifice; at other times seated on the upper range, contemplating the noble prospect expanded before us; the town under our eyes, verdant plains spreading on one side, and on the other the Alps, rising in craggy majesty, and bearing on their ridges the united snows of four thousand winters!—while an Hesperian sun shone in full brightness over our heads, and southern gales breathed all the warmth and all the fragrance of summer around us. In the whole, we visited few places with more satisfaction, and left few with more regret than Verona.

The distance from Verona to Vicenza, is three posts and a half; the road runs over a plain, highly cultivated and beautifully shaded with vines and mulberries: near Monte Bello, however, bold hills rise on either side, and present in their windings, or on their summits, villages, towns and castles. Vicenza is a town as ancient as Verona, large and populous: its circumference

is near three miles, and the number of its inhabitants is said to amount to thirty thousand. It has passed through the same revolutions as its neighbour Verona, but seems to have suffered more from their consequences : it was burnt by the emperor Frederic II. while at war with the Pope, and cannot consequently be supposed to exhibit any remnants of its Roman glory.

But the want of ancient monuments is supplied in a great degree by numberless master-pieces of modern genius. The architect Palladio was a native of this city, and employed all the powers of his art in the embellishment of his country. Hence the taste and magnificence that reign in most of the public buildings and private houses. Among the former we may distinguish the town-house, which is called very significantly, *The palace of public opinion*, where justice is administered, and the business of the city transacted, the residence of the principal magistrate.

The gate of the Campus Martius is a triumphal arch, solid and well proportioned ; and above all, the celebrated Olympic theatre, erected at the expense of a well known academy bearing that pompous title. This edifice is raised upon the plan of ancient theatres, and bears a great resemblance to those of Herculaneum and Pompeii. The permanent and immoveable scenery, the ranges of seats rising above each other, the situation of the orchestra, and the colonnade that crowns the upper range, are all faithful

representations of antiquity. The scene consists of a magnificent gate, supported by a double row of pillars, niches and statues: it has one large, and two smaller entrances, opening into as many principal streets, decorated with temples, palaces, and public edifices of various descriptions, formed of solid materials, and disposed, according to the rules of perspective, so as to assume somewhat more than the mere theatrical appearance of reality. The sides are a continuation of the same plan, and have also each one entrance going into its respective street: thus there are five entrances, through which the actors pass and repass to and from the stage. The orchestra occupies the centre, or that part which we call the pit; thence rise the seats, forming the side of an elipsis, and above them the gallery, composed of a range of Corinthian pillars, with their full entablature, surmounted by a balustrade, and adorned with statues of marble. An air of simplicity, lightness, and beauty, reigns over the whole edifice, and delights the ordinary observer, while in the opinion of connoisseurs, it entitles it to the appellation of the masterpiece of Palladio.

There are said to be about twenty palaces in Vicenza, which were erected by Palladio, some of which are of unusual splendour, and contribute in the whole to give the city an appearance of magnificence and beauty not common even in Italy. In materials and magnitude they

are inferior perhaps to the palaces of Genoa, but in style of architecture and external beauty, far superior.

Leaving Vicenza, we proceeded to Padua, and thence by the river Brenta to Venice. The country through which the Brenta flows is flat, but is highly cultivated, well wooded, and extremely populous. The banks are lined with villages, or little towns, and decorated with several handsome palaces and gardens.

These celebrated banks have, without doubt, a rich, a lively, and sometimes a magnificent appearance, but their splendour and beauty have been much exaggerated; and an Englishman accustomed to the Thames, and the villas that grace its banks at Richmond and Twickenham, will discover little to excite his admiration as he descends the canal of the Brenta. It was evening when we arrived at Fusina, on the shore of the Lagune opposite Venice. The Lagune are the shallows that border the whole coast, and extend round Venice: their depth between the city and the main land is from three to six feet, in general. These shallows are occasioned by the vast quantities of sand carried down by the many rivers that descend from the Alps and fall into the Adriatic sea, all along its western shores. Ravenna, which lies much lower down, anciently stood, like Venice, in the midst of waters: it is now surrounded with sand, as Venice will probably be ere long. The ancient republic

expended considerable sums in clearing the canals that intersect and surround the city, removing obstacles, and keeping up the depth of water, so necessary for the security of the capital.

The grand appearance of the city is well calculated to excite attention. At our nearer approach, it was brilliantly illuminated by the declining sun, and appeared as if rising from the waters, with its numberless domes and towers, attended, if I may be allowed the expression, by several lesser islands, each crowned with its spires and pinnacles, presenting the appearance of a vast city seated on the very bosom of the ocean. We embarked in barges, and, gliding smoothly over the Lagune, whose surface, unruffled by the slightest breeze, was as smooth as the most polished glass, touched at the island of St. Georgio, which is about half the distance across, that is, two miles from the main land on one side, and from Venice on the other; and then entering the city, rowed up the grand canal, and passed under the bridge of the Rialto; admiring as we advanced, the varied architectural beauties of the place, and the vast edifices that line its sides.

The Venitians are like a lively family cut off from the rest of Europe. Let the reader imagine himself pushing off from a sea-coast, and coming at a distance of a league and a half upon a city standing in the sea. This is Venice. It is built upon seventy-two little islands, the houses abut-

ting directly upon the water, the finest of them without even a landing-place but the stairs ; so that instead of streets there are only canals of sea-water ; and instead of coaches and carts, gondolas and other boats. Perhaps the best idea an English reader can have of a Venetian street, is to imagine a street like Portland-place, or rather a more winding one, like the High-street at Oxford, mixed with nobler as well as smaller houses, and the full sea running through it, with abundance of boats of traffick and swift-darting gondolas. The gondola is a sort of wherry, about five feet broad, and twenty-five long, covered with black cloth, and having a cabin standing up in the middle of it, like the body of a caravan. The cabin is covered with black also, and has moveable windows with curtains. A Venetian gentleman keeps his gondola as an Englishman does his coach ; only with much greater cheapness. The full complement of a gondola is two rowers, who stand to their oars, one at each end and with their faces the reverse way of our boatmen. They are very expert, and dart their gondolas in and out among the intricacies of this watery bustle, like fish. They are proverbial for their cheerfulness and honesty. They used to be famous for singing passages from Tasso and other Italian poets ; but political trouble has dashed the spirits even of the Venetian gondolier, and he is now comparatively mute. The guitar however is still heard in Venice, especially of an

evening; and the visitor continually hears those delightful dancing airs which have been collected and published in this country. The chief, or rather the only place of assemblage for the inhabitants of Venice out of doors (for they have a fine opera, and multitudes of opera-houses within) is a large square, containing the principal church and the government offices. Here all ranks are accustomed to meet of an evening; and here something of amusement is generally going forward all day, from the guitar-player to the punchinello.

There is very little more standing-room throughout the city; and so little vegetation, that they call a court by way of eminence the Court of the Tree, and there is a church entitled Our Lady of the Garden. There is a monastery with one of these gardens, such as they are; the Palace Zenobia has another, and a Casino, called Zanne, another. We suppose they possess some others in miniature; but there is an island near Venice, where the gentry have country-houses, and appear a little more rural.

Next to its watery streets, Venice is remarkable for the number of its bridges and palaces. The latter are truly so called, and comprise many of the master-pieces of Palladio. Every noble family appears to have once occupied a palace, some of them many palaces. They stand upon the principal canals, into which run smaller ones, all of them having their bridges.

These bridges however are in general very small; nor is the famous one, called the Rialto, so remarkable as its celebrity would imply, though it is built in a striking manner, of one arch. It has houses on it, like old London bridge, though not after the same fashion. They cross it in a covered angle, forming a double arcade. The artist who built it was called Antonio of the bridge. In the same spirit of poetry, the bridge leading to the city jail is called the Bridge of sighs; and one of the principal canals, probably from the residence of some great muscian, is entitled the River of Song.

Venice may boast of a duration seldom allowed to human associations, whether kingdoms or commonwealths: it has enjoyed thirteen centuries of fame, prosperity, and independence. It is not wonderful, therefore, that this republic should have been honored with the appellation of another Rome, considered as the bulwark and pride of Italy, and celebrated by orators and poets as second to it as a seat of independence and empire.

The appearance of Venice is not unworthy of its glorious destinies. Its churches and palaces, and public buildings of every description, and sometimes even its private edifices, have in their size, materials, and decorations, a certain air of magnificence truly Roman. The style of architecture is not always pleasing, but is conformable to the taste that prevailed in the different ages when each edifice was erected.

The church of St. Mark, with its accompaniments, its tower, its square, its library, and its palace, from its celebrity alone deserves the traveller's first visit. The tower has neither grace in its form, nor beauty in its materials. Its merit is its height, which though not extraordinary in itself, yet from the flatness of the surrounding scenery, gives the spectator a very beautiful, clear and advantageous view of the city, and its port and shipping, with the neighbouring coasts, and all their windings. The famous Piazza de S. Marco, surrounded with arcades, is more remarkable for its being the well known scene of Venetian mirth, conversation and intrigue, than for its size or symmetry. It is inferior in both respects, to many squares in many great cities; yet as one side is the work of Palladio, and the whole of fine marble, its appearance is grand and striking. The church of St. Mark, the great patron of the city and republic, occupies one end of this square, and terminates it with a sort of gloomy barbaric magnificence. Its architecture is in bad taste; but if riches can compensate the want of taste and the absence of beauty, the church of St. Mark possesses a sufficient share to supply the deficiency, as it is ornamented with the spoils of Constantinople, and displays a profusion of the finest marbles, of alabasters, onyx, emerald, and all the splendid jewelry of the east. The celebrated bronze horses stood on the portico facing the piazza. These horses are supposed to be the

work of Lysippus ; they ornamented successively different triumphal arches at Rome, were transported by Constantine to this new city, and conveyed thence by the Venetians, when they took and plundered it in the year 1206. They were erected on marble pedestals above the portico of St. Mark, where they stood nearly six hundred years, a trophy of the power of the republic, till they were removed to Paris in the year 1797, and placed on stone pedestals behind the palace of the Thuilleries.

The Piazzetta, opening from St. Mark's to the sea in front, and lined on one side with the ducal palace, on the other with the public library, with its two superb pillars of granite standing insulated in the centre, is a scene at once grand, airy, and, from the concourse of people that frequent it, animated. Close to St. Mark's stands the ducal palace, the seat of the Venetian government, where the senate and different councils of state assembled, each in their respective halls. This antique fabric is in the gothic style, of vast extent, great solidity, and venerable appearance. Some of its apartments are spacious and lofty, and some of its halls of a magnitude truly noble. They are all adorned with paintings by the first masters of the Venetian school; and Titian, Paolo, Veronese, and Tintoretto, have exerted all their powers, and displayed all the charms of their art, to adorn the senate-house, and perpetuate the glories of the republic. The subjects of

the pictures are taken either from the Scripture or the history of Venice. The courts and staircases are decorated with antique statues, marble and bronze shine on every side, and the whole edifice corresponds in every respect with the dignity of its destination.

The celebrated Rialto is a single, but very old arch, thrown over the Gran Canale; and though striking from its elevation, span, and solidity, yet sinks almost into insignificance when compared with the beautiful bridge Della Trinita, at Florence, or with our own superb and far more extensive structures of Blackfriars, Westminster, and Waterloo.

The arsenal, occupying an entire island, and thus fortified, not only by its ramparts, but by the surrounding sea, is spacious, commodious, and even magnificent. Before the gate stands a vast pillar on either side, and two immense lions of granite, which formerly adorned the Piræus of Athens. They are attended by two others of a smaller size. The staircase in the principal building is of white marble. The halls large, lofty, and commodious; one of the principal is decorated with a beautiful statue by Canova, representing Fame crowning the late Admiral Emo, the Pompey of Venice, the last of her heroes. In short, nothing is wanting to make this celebrated arsenal perhaps the first in Europe, except that for which all arsenals are built, stores and shipping; and these were either plundered

or destroyed in the French invasion. But no public edifice does so much credit to the state as the noble rampart erected on the Lido di Pelestrina, to protect the city and port against the swell and storms of the Adriatic. This vast pile, formed of blocks of Istrian stone resembling marble, runs along the shore for the space of nineteen miles, connects various little islands and towns with each other, and if completed, would excel in utility, solidity, extent, and perhaps beauty, similar works of either Greeks or Romans.

Of the churches of Venice, it may be observed that as some of them have been built by Palladio, or from his models, they are of a fine style of architecture; and from the riches and religious temper of the republic, adorned with more magnificence than those of any other town in Italy, if we except the matchless splendours of Rome.

Next to the churches we may rank the Scuole, or the chapels and halls of certain confraternities, such as that of St. Roch, St. Mark, and that of the Mercatani; all of noble proportions and rich furniture, and all adorned with paintings relating to their respective denominations, by the best masters.

The state of society in Venice seems to be upon a more enlarged scale than formerly; the casinos indeed continue still to be the places of resort, of card parties and suppers; but various houses are open to strangers; and balls and con-

certs, and club dinners, are given frequently, to all which introduction is not difficult. The carnival was distinguished by plays in the day, and masked balls at night; the illumination of the theatre on such nights is very beautiful. One species of theatrical amusement at this season is singular: it is a farce, carried on at all hours, so that the idle part of the community may, if they please, pass all the twenty-four hours in the play-house, fall asleep, and awake, go out and come in, and still find the play going on with its usual spirit. In such pieces, the actors seem to be obliged to have recourse to their own ingenuity for the dialogue, which however seldom flags for want of materials; such is their natural talent for liveliness and repartee.

On our departure from Venice we proceeded towards Fusina. As we rowed over the Lagune, we prevailed on our Gondolieri to sing, according to ancient custom, some stanzas of Tasso; but however beautiful the poetry might be, we thought the tune and execution no ways superior to that of a common ballad in the streets of London. This classical mode of singing verses alternately, the remains of the ancient pastoral, so long preserved in Italy, has been much on the decline in Venice since the French invasion, which has damped the ardour of the people, and almost extinguished their natural mirth and vivacity. From Fusina we ascended the Brenta,

in the same manner as we had descended it, and arrived at Padua at a late hour.

The next morning, after a second visit to the most remarkable edifices, such as St. Justina, the Santo, the Cathedral, the Salone, we turned our attention to the neighbouring country, and considered what objects it presented to our curiosity. The warm fountain and baths lie about four miles from Padua. They were frequented by the ancient Romans under the emperors, and have been celebrated in long and elaborate descriptions in verse and prose. Many strange and wonderful effects have been attributed to them; but making all due allowances for poetical exaggeration, the waters are in many cases of great advantage.

About seven miles southward of Padua rises a ridge of hills, which were formerly, it seems, inhabited by a race of soothsayers, who vied with the Tuscans in the art of looking into futurity. It is said that one of these seers beheld the great battle of Pharsalia, while seated on his native hill, and described to his astonished auditors all the vicissitudes of that bloody conflict, on the very morning on which it took place. This relation proves at least that claims to the faculty termed second sight, are not confined to modern times, or to the northern parts of Great Britain.

About eight miles from Padua, on the banks of

the canal, stands the castle of the Obizzi, an ancient and illustrious family of Padua. This edifice is pretty much in the style of the old castles of romance. Lofty rooms, long galleries, winding staircases, and dark passages, fit it admirably for the purposes of a novelist, and render it equally proper for the abode of a great baron, the receptacle of a band of robbers, the scene of nightly murders, or in imagination the solitary walk of ghosts and spectres. But the predominant taste of the country has fitted it up in a style well calculated to dispel these gloomy transalpine illusions, and cure the spectator's mind of its gothic terrors. The apartments are adorned with paintings, some of which are in fresco, on the walls, representing the glories and achievements of the Obizzian heroes in days of old, and others on canvas, being originals or copies of great masters. The galleries, and one in particular of very considerable length, are filled with Roman antiquities, altars, vases, armour, inscriptions, pillars, &c. On the whole the castle is very curious, and worthy to be made the object of a particular visit.

A little beyond the village of Cataio we turned off from the high road, and quitting the carriages on account of the swampiness of the country, walked or rowed along through lines of willows, or over tracts of marshy land, for two or three miles, till we began to ascend the mountain. Arquato is prettily situated on the northern side

of a high hill, with a valley below it. It is not a very large, but a neat village. The villa of Petrarch, the Tuscan poet, is at the extremity farthest from Padua.

The next day we took leave of Padua, returned through Vicentia to Verona, and having passed the following day there, on the ensuing morning we set out for Peschiera, a fortress on the southern extremity of the Lago di Garda. The distance is about eighteen miles, over an excellent road, generally descending, and always passing through corn fields striped with vines, with some swells at a distance crowned with villages, churches, and seats, while the Alps form a vast boundary-line to the north. Traces of hostility, as I before observed, are indeed too visible in the neighbourhood of Verona, where several severe skirmishes, and one decisive battle, took place during the late war. The vineyards and mulberry-trees were of course torn up or cut down by the armies as they passed along, but the people have been busily employed in replanting them. At Peschiera the lake terminates in the river Mincio, which flows through the town, broad, deep, and clear as crystal, though almost as rapid as a mountain-torrent. We contemplated it for some time from the bridge, and then went out of the town, and, embarking without the gate, glided over the surface of the lake, so smooth and clear, that we could distinguish the bottom at the depth of twenty or thirty feet.

After viewing the extensive prospects of the lake, its coasts, peninsulas, and promontories, from the lofty hill in the neighbourhood of Brescia, our carriages were sent on towards Mantua, and we determined to proceed on foot, in order to explore the secret beauties of the Mincius, and to trace its classic banks, hitherto untrodden by the foot of any British traveller. We took guides, and descending a little hill on which Paradisino stands, advanced towards the banks of the river. These banks consist of fine broken hills, covered with vineyards and mulberry-trees, interspersed with corn fields and downs, with a rill occasionally tumbling through a large chasm on the left. On the same side, on the highest part of the bank, stands the village of Salionche, and on leaving this village you have a fine view over the river, between two swells, of the fortress of Ponte, at about two miles distance, backed by the Alps. Before you on a hill rises the old castle of Mosembano, with its two towers and long battlemented ramparts. Mosembano stands high on the right bank, and as you approach increases to your view, presenting a handsome church, and a fine old castle. The Mincius, spreading as it winds along, assumes the appearance of a magnificent river; while the castle of Vallegio on the hill, and the fortified bridge of Borghetto in the valley, form a very singular and striking termination. Borghetto is situated in a most beautiful valley: a high

road runs across, and is flanked with a wall on each side, strengthened with towers, and defended by three castles, one at each end, and one in the middle, forming a bridge over the river. As the day was far advanced, and the river did not promise any picturesque scenery during its progress over the flat country, we mounted our carriages in the town of Borghetto and drove to Mantua, over a fertile, well wooded, highly cultivated, and well peopled plain, and we entered the fortress about six o'clock.

MANTUA is a large city, with spacious streets, and some fine edifices. Its cathedral, built nearly upon the same plan as Santa Maria Maggiore at Rome, is a very regular and beautiful edifice. The nave consists of a double row of Corinthian pillars, supporting, not arches, but an architrave and cornice, with a range of windows above, and niches in the intervals between them: another row of pillars of the same order on either side forms a double aisle. The choir consists of a semicircular recess behind the altar; between the choir and the nave rises a very noble dome, decorated with pilasters and fine paintings. The transept, on the left, terminates in the chapel of the Holy Sacrament, in form an hexagon, with a recess for the altar, surmounted with a dome, adorned with paintings and arabesques in the best style, presenting in the whole an exquisite specimen of Mantuan taste.

The day after our arrival happened to be an

high festival. At evening service, about six o'clock, the cathedral was illuminated in the finest manner imaginable. Double rows of lustres lighted up the nave; the aisles and arcades had as many clusters of torches as there were arches and pillars; while a thousand chandeliers, suspended from the dome, shed a blaze of light on the choir and altar.

The music might have been deemed heavenly, but it is to an English ear rather too theatrical, being, like all Italian church music, performed with violins; however, the organ sometimes interspersed with all its solemnity, and some bursts in chorus were truly celestial. The venerable old bishop presided in full pontific majesty; the crowded congregation were silent, orderly, and pious, and the scene, though perhaps somewhat too glaring and stage-like for English taste, yet, on the whole, was splendid and even awful. The statue of the Saint is as large as the life, and was formerly of massive silver, but the French conceiving that one of wood was sufficient for all the purposes of exhibition, converted the silver to other uses!

Her Majesty with an ardent love of useful travel, and a constant desire to investigate whatever might seem worthy of close research, had now determined with a spirit of enterprise almost peculiar to herself, to undertake a personal visit to Greece and the Holy Land, and to take Tunis in her way. In the prosecution of this tour, Her

Majesty had the advantage of the counsel of Sir William Gell, one of her suite, a gentleman then already of great celebrity in the learned world, by his travels of research in those renowned and interesting parts of the world.

Sir William Gell, who had obtained leave of absence at Naples, on account of illness, and a consequent inability to travel, did not, however, accompany Her Majesty to Palestine, but met her on the return, after the completion of this most interesting and perilous undertaking.

Her Majesty therefore returned to her villa on the Lake of Como, and directed the proper preparatory arrangements.

CHAPTER XIX.

Her Majesty embarks at Genoa for Sicily.—Arrival at the Isle of Elba.—Palermo.—The Lipari Islands.—Stromboli.—Its remarkable Volcano and Eruptions.—Messina.—Coast of Calabria.—Danger encountered by Her Majesty at Sea.—Arrival off Catania.—Syracuse.—Murderous Grotto of Dionysius.—Extensive and remarkable Catacombs.—Singular Mode of travelling to Catania.—Mount Etna.—General Account of its Wonders.—Her Majesty quits Sicily, and embarks for Africa.

WE set out from the Villa d'Este on the 12th of November, and slept the same night at Milan, that of the 13th at Nuovi, and on the 14th arrived at Genoa, where we embarked immediately on board the Leviathan, a British ship of the line, of eighty guns. The wind being contrary to our course, it was not practicable to put to sea on the day of embarkation, and considerable peril was incurred, from her touching several times upon banks.

The wind at length became so violent, that it was impossible to put out a boat; but on the 17th it moderated, and we set sail the same day; on the 18th we passed the isle of Capraja. We soon afterwards came in sight of the island of Corsica,

the capital of which, Ajaccio, was the birth-place of Napoleon Buonaparte. In the evening we reached Elba, and came to anchor in Porto Ferrajo; and on the following day, the 19th, we disembarked, and Her Majesty visited the dwelling of Napoleon, an unfavourably situated, and as inconvenient a building as can be imagined. There are eight very small chambers below, and above is a hall, in which the portrait of Napoleon, painted in the costume of his coronation, is preserved. There are, besides, three small apartments which were occupied by the Princess, his sister: and by the side of the house is a garden, designed by himself, and a theatre, in which his officers performed dramatic pieces for his amusement. The town of Elba is neat in its appearance, though small, and is paved throughout with cut stone: it received much improvement during the residence of Napoleon, who formed a fine road of four leagues in length, and promoted the discovery and the working of mines, productive of iron and other minerals.

On the 20th, Her Majesty re-embarked, but the wind being contrary, we got out to sea on the 22nd only. The island of Pianoza is a flat and low tract, in the vicinity of Elba, and was used by Napoleon as a place of reception for his horses. On the 24th we passed the isle of Montecristo, and on the 26th arrived at Palermo, the capital of Sicily. The town of Palermo is rather extensive, very dirty, and without any remarkable





object of curiosity. The public gardens are the most pleasing which it presents. The place is advantageously situated, and the climate, as may be supposed, is excellent.

On the 4th of December, at seven o'clock in the evening, we quitted this city, and the day following passed the Lipari Islands, three in number, and the island of Stromboli. The latter is the principal of the cluster of small islands lying to the north of Sicily, the whole of which contain volcanoes. At a distance this island appears of a conical form, but on closer examination it is found to be a mountain, having two summits of different heights, the sides of which have been torn and shattered by repeated eruptions. The most elevated summit lies to the south-west, and is estimated to be above a mile in height.

In this volcanic mountain the striking effects of a constantly active fire are every where visible. At the distance of one hundred miles the flames it emits are sometimes visible, whence it has been aptly denominated the light-house of that part of the Mediterranean Sea.

The burning crater is placed about half way up, on the north-west side of the mountain, and has a diameter not exceeding two hundred and fifty feet. It throws up burning stones at regular intervals of seven or eight minutes. While a portion of these roll down towards the sea, the greater part fall back into the crater, and being again

cast out by a subsequent eruption, are thus tossed about until they are broken and reduced to ashes.

The volcanic stones appear black in the day time, and towards evening gradually assume a deep red colour, and sparkle like fire-works. Each explosion is accompanied by flames or smoke, the latter resembling clouds, in the lower part black, in the upper white and shining, and separating into globular and irregular forms. In particularly high winds from the south, or south-east, the smoke spreads over every part of the island. On such occasions the clear sky exhibits the appearance of a beautiful aurora-borealis over that part of the mountain on which the volcano is situated, and which from time to time becomes more red and brilliant, in proportion as the ignited stones are thrown to a lesser or greater height.

The present crater has burned for more than a century, without any apparent change having taken place in its situation. The side from which the showers of ignited matter fall into the sea, is almost perpendicular, about half a mile broad at the bottom, and a mile in length, terminating above in a point. In rolling down, the lava rises the fine sand like a cloud of dust. Numerous pieces of lava of a dark red colour, and enveloped in smoke, are sometimes ejected from the top of the precipice, and thrown to a great height in the air. A part of them fall on the declivity,

and roll down, the smaller preceded by the greater, and after a few bounds, dash into the sea, giving out a sharp hissing sound. The more minute fragments, from their lightness, and the hindrance of the sand, roll slowly down, and, striking against each other, produce the sound of hail-stones falling on a roof.

When this volcano rages with great violence, thousands of red-hot stones are hurled to a prodigious height; those which roll down the precipice produce a hail of streaming fire, which illuminates the steep descent. Independently of those ignited stones, there is in the air which hovers over the volcano, a vivid light, which is not extinguished even when that is at rest. It is not, properly speaking, flame, but light reflected by the atmosphere. It appears constantly in motion, ascending, descending, dilating, and contracting, but always remaining perpendicular over the mouth of the volcano, which shews that it is occasioned by the conflagration within the crater. The detonations in the great eruptions resemble the roaring of distant thunder; but in the more moderate ones, the explosions of a mine. One of this group of islands, called Vulcano, is remarkable for the magnitude and the terrific grandeur of its crater, or fiery mouth: it is in fact itself a mountain, in the form of a broken cone, which opens and exposes to view a second cone, of more regular figure, and in which the actual mouth of the volcano is placed.

The base of the inner cone is separated from the steep sides of the outer one by a circular valley, which is filled with light pumice stones, and fragments of black vitreous lava, and buried in ashes perfectly white. The blow of a hammer on these stones produces a loud hollow sound, which is powerfully re-echoed in the neighbouring caverns, and prove that the surface is nothing more than the arch of a vault covering an immense abyss. The perpendicular height of the inner cone is about half a mile. The crater or actual opening of the Volcano is most magnificent, and, with the exception of Etna alone, is considered the most capacious and striking of any in existence. It exceeds a mile in circuit, has an oval mouth, and is about a quarter of a mile in depth. This vast cavity is very regular, and, as its entire contents are displayed to the eye at once, presents one of the grandest and most imposing spectacles in nature. On large stones being rolled down the declivity, the mountain re-echoes; and on their reaching the bottom, they appear to sink in a fluid. Indeed, with the aid of a glass, two small lakes, supposed to be filled with melted sulphur, have been plainly seen. The declivity of the interior wall is so great, that even when there is not any danger from fire, the descent is next to impossible. After great difficulty it was however accomplished by one adventurer. He found the subterraneous noise to be much more tremendous

than on the summit, sounding like an impetuous river foaming beneath, or rather like a conflict of agitated waves meeting and clashing furiously together. The ground was perforated with apertures, from which hissing sounds issued, resembling those produced by the bellows of a large furnace. It shakes very sensibly when pressed by the feet; and a large piece of lava or stone, let fall five or six feet, produces a subterraneous echoing sound, which continues some time. These circumstances, combined with its burning heat, and the strong stench of sulphur it emits, indicates that the fires of this volcano are still active within the bosom of the mountain. Its most violent eruptions have always happened with the earthquakes that have desolated Sicily and Italy.

On the 5th of December we entered the straits of Messina, and reached the town the same evening. We disembarked on the 10th, and quitted our delightful vessel, to return to it no more. The accommodations for Her Majesty's reception were so judicious, and the voyage altogether so pleasant, that we left it with much regret. Her Majesty engaged a residence at a little distance from Messina. Messina is, in rank, only the second town in Sicily, but in reality is in itself prettier and cleaner than Palermo. Opposite to Messina lies Calabria, and St. Jean de Roviegio may be seen from it.

After three weeks of most pleasant intercourse

with the nobility and the best society of the place, we departed from Messina on the 6th of January 1816, and embarked on board the *Clo-rinde* frigate, in which Her Majesty arrived at Genoa from Civita Vecchia. Catania is but seven leagues distant from Messina. When we were on the very point of landing at this place, the wind suddenly became so violent and contrary, that it was rendered totally impracticable. It is a dangerous spot, from the circumstance of there being no port, but merely a small open road. The gale continued so heavy that we were in considerable danger. The sails, incapable of withstanding its force, were rent into a thousand fragments as soon as set. During an entire day but one sheet of canvass could be spread ; and our fine vessel was tossed about with so much violence, that it was impossible to a person unaccustomed to the sea to remain on his legs. Four days we remained beating about the same spot, with this terrific contrary wind, expecting every moment that our frigate would founder. At length Providence relieved us from apprehension, and on the 10th of January we entered the port of Syracuse in safety.

Syracuse is at present but an inconsiderable town, but was formerly much celebrated, and governed by its own kings. It is of great antiquity, and possesses many curiosities worthy of remark ; among others a grotto, called Dionysius's Ear. This is a grotto hollowed in the rock,

in the form of a human ear, and was constructed by Dionysius, a notorious tyrant. The echo produced here is truly surprising. A pistol fired in it produces the effect of a cannon-shot; and words uttered in a very low tone, are repeated loudly and distinctly by the echo. It was here that the unfortunate victims of the tyrant's brutality are said to have been confined. He had caused a small chamber to be constructed above, in which all the complaints of the prisoners below could be heard. He was accustomed to place a sentinel there, who in the morning related to him what had been said by the prisoners during the night; and influenced by fear of the soldier's disclosure of the secret of the listening chamber, he constantly strangled him. Every evening he caused a fresh sentinel to be placed there, and every morning he was, himself, his assassin! To such inconsistent acts, and such dreadful extremities and crimes, does tyrannical conduct lead mankind.

At Syracuse are shewn also the catacombs, or vaults, in which were the sepulchres, and into which the old men, women, and children, fled in time of war. Formerly it was practicable to pass from Syracuse to Catania, a distance of forty miles, by these subterraneous passages; they are even now passable as much as fifteen miles. They consist of many narrow passages, which branch off in different directions, with large chambers at intervals, and are visited always with lighted

flambeaux: the gloom, and the feeling which it excites is horrible; and the atmosphere is also extremely noxious. There still exists at Syracuse the ruins of many profane temples, of great antiquity; of these the temple of Minerva is the most ancient. It is now converted into the great church, and is said to be the most ancient structure in the world. The fountain of Rotuza is to be seen, the waters of which, though fresh, come from the bay, and return to it. The ruins of the dwellings of the Saracens are still visible. They were hollowed out in the rock, and the tables and seats also formed of the same material. Syracuse formerly possessed four considerable cities, all of which are now reduced to ruins, and have disappeared. It gave birth to Archimedes, the illustrious geometrician, who invented burning glasses of power and magnitude sufficient to destroy the vessels of an enemy. The climate of Syracuse is delightful.

Her Majesty quitted Syracuse on the 29th of January for Catania, the whole party being carried in suspended chairs, one horse being placed before, and another behind, it being impossible to travel in carriages, on account of the narrowness and difficulties of the roads. The same evening we slept at Albentina, a small ruined town of great antiquity; and on the 30th we reached Catania, a very pretty town, at the foot of Mount Etna, a volcano, not less celebrated for its beauties than formidable during its erup

tions. The town has already been destroyed, and rebuilt, several times.

The majestic Etna, which the ancients considered, not unreasonably, as one of the highest mountains in the world, and on the summit of which they believed that our progenitors sought refuge, to save themselves from the universal deluge, is situated on the plain of Catania in Sicily. Its elevation above the level of the sea has been estimated at 10,963 feet, upwards of two miles. On clear days it is distinctly seen from Valetta, the capital of Malta, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. It is incomparably the largest burning mountain in Europe. From its sides other mountains arise, which in different ages have been ejected, in single masses, from its enormous crater. The most extensive lavas of Vesuvius do not exceed seven miles in length, while those of Etna extend to fifteen, twenty, and some even to thirty miles. The crater of Etna is seldom less than a mile in circuit, and sometimes is two or three miles. A journey to the summit of Etna is considered as an enterprise of importance, as well from the difficulty of the route, as from the distance, it being thirty miles from Catania to the summit of the mountain. Its gigantic bulk, its sublime elevation, and the extensive, varied, and grand prospects which are presented from its summit, have however induced the curious in every age to ascend and examine it, and not a few have transmitted the

observations which they have made during their arduous journey.

The top of Etna being above the common region of vapours, the heavens at this elevation appear with an unusual splendour. Ascending in the night, the number of stars seem to be infinitely increased, and the light of each appears brighter than usual. The whiteness of the milky way is like a pure flame, spreading across the heavens; and with the naked eye clusters of stars are observed, which are invisible from below.

This single mountain contains an epitome of the different climates throughout the world, presenting at once all the seasons of the year, and all the varieties of produce. It is accordingly divided into three regions, which are known by the appellations of the cultivated region, the woody or temperate region, and the desert region. The former of these extends through twelve miles of the ascent towards the summit, and is almost incredibly abundant in pasture and in fruit-trees of every description. It is covered with towns, villages, and monasteries, and the number of inhabitants distributed over its surface is estimated at one hundred and twenty thousand. In ascending to the woody or temperate region, the scene changes; it is a new climate, a new creation: below, the heat is suffocating, but here the air is mild and fresh. The turf is covered with aromatic plants; and the gulfs, which formerly ejected torrents of fire, are here changed

into woody valleys. The last, or desert region, commences more than a mile above the level of the sea. The lower part is covered with snow in winter only; but on the upper half of this sterile district the snows *constantly* lie. The upper part, which may properly be called the cone of Etna, is in a right line, about a mile in ascent, in fact a little mountain, about a quarter of a mile perpendicular, and very steep, situated in the middle of a gently inclined plain, about nine miles in circumference. The cavity is shaped like a funnel, diminishing until it terminates in a point, and having an outer circumference of two miles and a half. Great changes are however constantly taking place. Within the aperture, a liquid ignited matter is seen constantly undulating, boiling, rising, and falling, without spreading over the bottom. This is no doubt the melted lava, which has from time to time issued from the bottom of the gulf. No traveller has however dared to venture down the crater.

Etna has been celebrated as a volcano from the remotest antiquity; eruptions are recorded as having happened 500 years before the Trojan war, 1693 years before the Christian era. In 1669, the torrent of burning lava inundated a space fourteen miles in length, and four in breadth, burying beneath a part of Catania, till at length it precipitated itself into the sea. In 1809, twelve new craters opened about half way down the mountain, and threw out rivers of burning lava,

by which several estates were covered, to the depth of thirty or forty feet; and during three or four successive nights a very large river of red-hot lava was distinctly seen in its whole extent, running down from the mountain. In 1811, several mouths opened on the eastern side of the mountain: being nearly in the same line, and at equal distances, they presented to the view a striking spectacle,—torrents of burning matter, discharged with the greatest force from the interior of the volcano, illuminated the horizon to a great extent. An immense quantity of matter, which was driven to considerable distances, was discharged from these apertures, the largest of which continued in action during several months, constantly emitting torrents of fire. Even at the time when it had the appearance of being choked, there suddenly issued from it clouds of ashes, which descended, in the form of rain, on the city of Catania and its environs, as well as on the fields, at a very considerable distance. A roaring, resembling that of the sea in the midst of a violent tempest, was heard to proceed from the interior of the mountain; and this sound, accompanied from time to time by dreadful explosions, resembling thunder, re-echoed through the valleys, spreading terror on every side.

On the 25th of February we left Catania, and arrived in the evening at Augusta, a small town on the coast, in which there is nothing remarkable except the harbour, which is safe and good. On

the 26th of March, the small vessel, called the *Royal Charlotte*, belonging to Her Majesty, arrived. We embarked on board this ship on the 1st of April, and directed our course to Girgenti, a town of great antiquity; but which we were unable to visit, on account of the shallowness of the harbour. The island of Sicily is the largest in the Mediterranean, and of great fertility; the land yielding every sort of produce spontaneously. We saw the corn springing amidst stones and briars, at this early period, and the country as green and luxuriant as in the middle of May in England. Situated at the southern extremity of Italy, it need scarcely be said that the climate is delightful, nor, after what has been said of Etna, that it is salubrious.

On the 3d of April we again embarked on our passage from Europe to Africa, which we accomplished very rapidly, having run one hundred and sixty miles in one night.

From the port of Syracuse our course lay to the southward for about sixty or seventy miles, to clear the southern point of the island, or Cape Passaro. When arrived at this distance from the port of Syracuse, about the same distance to the westward brings us abreast of the famous island of Malta, and its neighbour, the little island of Goza.

The island, or rather the rock of Malta, (for such in fact it is) is justly famous in history, from

the valorous achievements and the extraordinary military character of the knights its governors.

Malta, and the neighbouring island Goza, which always shared its fortunes, was in ancient times the prey of various powers; Phœnicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, Goths, Arabs, Normans, Germans, French, and Spaniards, were successively masters of this island, which to this day contains some monuments of their respective sovereignty. The emperor Charles v. aware of the importance of these islands, was desirous of possessing them, without the expence of maintaining the necessary garrison, and to effect this, determined to place them in the hands of some power which would be interested in preserving them. He made choice of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, which by the disgraceful and treacherous neglect of the princes of Christendom, had been compelled to submit to the arms of Solyman, and had been driven from Rhodes, after sustaining a siege by the infidels so tremendous, that history in its long and bloody annals can furnish but few parallels. Charles v. established the knights of that renowned order, and who had thus distinguished themselves to the astonishment of the world, as perpetual sovereigns of the islands of Malta and Goza, and they retained it, with an untarnished military character, till their unexpected and extraordinary surrender of it to the French during the revolutionary war.

The island of Malta contains two principal cities; the old city, Civita Vecchia, the ancient capital of the island; and La Valetta. The fortifications of Malta are of a description which, aided as they are by extraordinary advantages of situation, are deemed impregnable to the utmost efforts of military skill or force. They can in fact, if resolutely defended, be reduced by no human effort, except only the measure of blockade, so vigilant as to exhaust the defenders by famine. After the surrender of the knights to the French, the English adopted this plan of reducing it, and maintained a vigorous blockade during two years! from 1798 to 1800, when the city surrendered. That the horrors of such a mode of warfare greatly exceed those arising from the more active operation of fire and sword, may be understood when I relate that in the latter period of this extraordinary blockade, their provisions were so far exhausted, that a *rat* usually produced two shillings of English money! Of 40,000 souls at the commencement of this astonishing warfare, such were the dreadful effects of poverty and disease, that in eighteen months, there remained but 7,000! and at this time the horses, asses, dogs, cats, and every reptile whose carcass bore any semblance to human food, was entirely consumed, and the French, compelled by actual famine, proposed terms of capitulation.

The soil of Malta is seldom more than a foot above the surface of the rock: it is irrigated

chiefly by the night dew; but the rock being porous, retains the moisture. The earth is always removed once in ten years, in order to clear the rock of a thick crust, which forms, and prevents the moisture from penetrating. The Maltese are a most industrious people, as is abundantly testified by the fact of their *making* an artificial land on the most barren parts of the island. They begin by levelling the rock, which however they allow to incline a little, that all superabundant water may run off. They then heap together some stones, broken into small pieces of an irregular form, which they place about a foot in thickness, and cover with a bed of the same stones nearly reduced to powder. On this they first place a bed of earth, brought either from other parts of the island, or taken out of the cliffs of the rocks; then a bed of dung: and afterwards a second bed of earth: such, indeed, is the perseverance of the proprietors of this ground, that it becomes in a short time of equal fertility with the natural soil. The general soil of Malta, is however, exceedingly prolific; the cotton-tree is very assiduously and successfully cultivated; fruits of various sorts come to great perfection: melons, oranges, lemons, and particularly figs. The Maltese honey is far celebrated for its delicious flavour.

The climate is, generally speaking, salubrious. During the sirocco, or hot wind, which prevails periodically, beverages cooled with ice are largely

used by all classes of persons; snow, therefore, is considered at Malta as one of the first necessities of life. It is brought from Sicily, and administered to the sick; and whenever there is a scarcity, all that remains in the ice-house is entirely reserved for the use of the hospitals. Cold bathing is also successfully used as a preservative against the ill effects of the sirocco.

The principal trade of the island consist in cotton, which, both in a raw and manufactured state, is chiefly sent into Spain. The Maltese are obliged to import their corn, wood, wine, oil, brandy, &c.

Malta is inaccessible, except in some parts on the NN. W. and SE. In these quarters every creek that can admit a boat is strongly defended by forts and batteries; in addition to which, a chain of towers, from one to two miles asunder, built along the accessible part of the island, right and left of the principal fortress, affords means of instant communication with it from every part, with additional defence.

The soil, where naturally of some depth, is exceedingly fertile; and as I have already mentioned, where nature has been spare of covering to the stone, industry has amply supplied the deficiency with earth collected from the valleys, or brought from Sicily. For the support of this artificial soil on the sloping rocks, stone walls in vast numbers have been erected, from four to five feet high, behind which level terraces rise in succession above each other to the top of the

slope. The breadth of these, according to the degree of acclivity, is from twenty to eighty yards. The aspect of Malta from this circumstance differs materially when seen from below and from an eminence. In the former instance the bare walls have a sterile aspect, that is but partially relieved by the intervening deep green of the locusta, or the lighter tint of the orange, and other fruit trees: in the latter a most pleasing scene of fertility is exhibited; few bare walls appear, and a varied foliage, and maturing fruits of several species, contrast prettily with rich fields of corn, and streaks of verdure of different shades.

Malta, the capital of the island, on its north-eastern side, five and a half miles NW. of its south-eastern extremity, is situate upon two deep, safe, and very capacious harbours, which, with three creeks on the south-eastern side of the largest and deepest, divide it into several distinct towns, each strongly defended, and those on the creeks half surrounded in addition by a semi-circular fortification, the diameter of which is a mile and a quarter. Valetta, the principal town, stands on a rocky tongue of land, extending from the main a mile and a quarter, and, at its extremity, even with the points SE. and NW. that form the two harbours.* The entrance of the harbour, NW. of Valetta, is scarcely two hundred yards wide, but enlarges to the breadth of seven hundred yards; from the entrance to the extremity

is one mile and a quarter ; at the distance of half a mile from the mouth is the small island Lazaretto, six hundred yards long by two hundred broad, in front of which from the mouth there is from six to fifteen fathoms water, but beyond, where small vessels anchor, no more than two. The harbour on the south-east, called Marza, is four hundred yards broad at its mouth, and runs a mile and a half in shore, and has almost in every part from six to fifteen fathoms. From it four creeks run south-west ; the first between Fort Risacoli, at the mouth of the harbour and Fort Salvador, is insufficiently sheltered ; the second, opposite to the upper town of Valetta, runs inland half a mile, is two hundred yards broad, and has good anchorage in from two to three fathoms ; the third is separated from the latter by a peninsula three hundred yards wide, on which stands the town of Vittoriosa, and at the point the castle of St. Angelo ; this runs three quarters of a mile inland, is termed the Grand Port, is two hundred yards broad, and has from four to five fathoms water : again a third inner peninsula, on which stands Sangle Town, divides this from the last creek ; it penetrates nearly as far inland as the former, is more narrow, but has from five to six fathoms water.

Valetta, or Citta Nuova, in lat. 35° 54' N. lon. 14° 30' E. occupies, with its houses and fortifications, the whole of the tongue of land that parts the two harbours. This tongue land, at its

extremity, is 400 yards broad, but soon enlarges to a breadth of from 700 yards to half a mile. At the extremity is the castle of St. Elmo, a modern fortification, which defends the entry of the two ports, and besides on the opposite side SE. is Fort Risacoli. Next to this is Valetta Proper, or the Upper Town, of great strength, and separated by walls and fosses from the Lower Town, further towards the south-west. The latter is equally well defended, and is distinct from the citadel, which occupies the greater part of the neck of the peninsula. This city was rebuilt in 1566, by the Grand Master, John Frederick La Valette, from whom it took its name. The streets are well paved, but rather narrow, to exclude the sun; the houses, constructed of white stone, cut from the rock on which they are built, lofty and handsome; the hotels have excellent accommodation, and houses in which ice-creams are to be had, congealed by means of snow brought from Mount Etna, are very numerous. The most remarkable building is the cathedral church of St. John, externally a fine piece of architecture, and richly decorated within by some very fine tapestry and paintings of extreme value, especially an inimitable representation of the beheading of St. John, by Michael Angelo, which obtained him admission into the order. The roof is vaulted, and represents the life of St. John, painted by the Chevalier Matthias, and the flooring is beautifully inlaid with precious marble.

The treasury was formerly exceedingly rich; but the French having had possession of the city for some time, it is superfluous to say it is no longer rich. The palace, in which the Grand Master resided, is a very handsome building; and in front is a large square, where the military parade. Here likewise is another extensive structure, fitted up by the knights for the reception of the public library; the hall of justice, the former college of the jesuits, and the barracks, are deserving of notice. There are abundance of fountains, fed by the great subterranean aqueduct before described. The number of inhabitants of Valetta now exceeds 3,000 exclusive of the military. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to Palermo in Sicily, and contains several churches and convents, a hospital, and a particular building once destined for Turkish slaves. On the island of Lazaret is an hospital for persons under quarantine, and a fort.

Citta Vittoriosa is placed on the rocky strip projecting opposite to the interval that parts the upper from the lower town, between the second and third creek of the Marsa, or Grand Port; a bridge connects the city with the castle of St. Angelo, situate upon the extreme of the peninsula on a very high rock. The excellent port on the SW. of the town causes this place to be much thronged with inhabitants, and, notwithstanding the length of it is barely half a mile, and the breadth within the ramparts not more than half an

eighth of a mile, it contains from three to four thousand inhabitants. The Grand Master once resided here, and here is the palace of the Inquisition, and an arsenal.

Sanglea, SW. of the last city, and inclosed between two excellent harbours, is somewhat broader than Citta Vittoriosa, is three quarters of a mile long, and contains between four and five thousand inhabitants.

Citta Vecchia, three and a half miles WSW. of Malta, a city, formerly the capital of the island. The Mahomedans, in order to strengthen it, however, contracted its dimensions; and with the same view it has been in after times still farther diminished, so as at present to have the appearance and size rather of a large fortress than a town. Its beautiful cathedral, the palace of the Grand Master, and the town-house, are worthy of attention, as are some ancient catacombs and caverns. Near the town also is a very extensive cave.

In Malta, besides the cities before mentioned, are no less than thirty-five towns and large villages, the churches of all which are of elegant architecture, and splendid, from the profusion of rich marbles and paintings belonging to them. Several of the towns are considerable, and collectively they embrace two-thirds or more of the whole population. Fifty towers, redoubts, and batteries, disposed along the shores, besides excavated batteries in the rocks, render all approach

difficult, and secure it against any other attack than of famine. Galibo Mountain is six miles WSW. of the capital, Felcha Tower eight miles west. The ports, besides that of Malta, are Marsa Sirocco, SE. by E. of that city, with twenty-two to twenty-three fathoms water, but exposed to the south-east; Marsa Salla, four miles WSW. of Malta, small, and exposed only to the west; St. Julian's port, Port St. George, Ports Magdalen and Salines, north-west of the city of Malta, small, open to the north-west, and with shallow water. Port St. Paul, nine miles SW. of the capital, is spacious, as is also the adjoining port Meleha.

On the north-west of Malta the strait of Friuli, two miles and a half broad, divides it from Gozo; in the middle lies the island of Comino, the *Æphes-tios* and *Lampas* of the Greeks. It is two miles long, from one half to three quarters broad, has two good anchoring places, and a fort, called Forte Rosso, which commands the strait between Gozo and Malta. It is tolerably well cultivated.

Gozo, two miles and a half NW. of Malta, is an island nearly oval in shape, its greatest diameter from E. to W. somewhat more than six miles, its smaller diameter four. The aspect of this island is more pleasing than that of Malta, the trees, which are more numerous, are of larger growth, and it has numerous springs. The inhabitants, in language, dress, habits, and genius, differ nothing from the Maltese. They are com-

puted at little short of forty thousand at present, although on enumerating them in 1798, they were not found to exceed twenty-four thousand; such has been the increase here since it has been under the protection of Great Britain. As in Malta, its south-western coast consists of extremely lofty rocks, and the opposite coast has several good ports: the defences of the island are very strong and numerous. The city, which bears the name of the island, and stands nearly in the centre, is very strongly fortified, and is supposed to have been founded at a very ancient date. On the strait of Friuli is the fort of Gozo, opposite to that in the island of Comingo: the fire from the two forts crosses, and thus protects the passage.

Shortly after passing Malta, the weather being extremely fine, with a light breeze, a bird of prey, which appeared to me to be a male sparrow-hawk, came and perched on the yards of the frigate: we were then from fourteen to fifteen leagues from land. The sailors called him a cruiser, because he cruises to catch quails, and other birds on their passage, which cross and recross those seas, a transit to them exposed to manifold dangers. Sometimes precipitated into the billows by the impetuosity of the blast, sometimes torn in pieces by the cruel pounces of these cruisers, winged like themselves, those interesting and defenceless creatures, on arriving upon the shores which promised them repose, after so

many dangers and fatigues, rarely escape the death prepared for them by man, who is after all the most voracious and most pitiless of all their enemies.

On the morning of the 3d of April we found ourselves close on Pantalaria, an island of much greater length than breadth, elevated in the middle, and terminating in a low point at each of its extremities. It is inhabited, and abundantly fertile. An officer of our ship, who on a former voyage had been ashore there, informed me that there was but one single spring in the whole island, but there was a lake of considerable extent. This lake is undoubtedly the crater of an extinguished volcano, for the same officer had found on the spot all the indications of it, such as lavas, pumice-stones, &c. The pass of Pantalaria is formidable to mariners, in winter more especially, for experience has taught them that the seas which surround it are seldom navigated without meeting a violent gale of wind.

In the course of the day we saw astern of our ship a flock of Petrels, known to navigators by the name of storm birds. It was about three o'clock in the afternoon when they first came near us; the weather was then fine, the wind at south-east, and almost calm: but about seven o'clock the wind came round to the south-west, and blew furiously. The sky was overclouded and lowering, the night set in extremely dark, and repeated and intense flashes of lightning

increased the horror of it; there was a dreadful swell of the sea, and we were at last obliged to lie to under our courses: our fine ship laboured exceedingly under this tremendous weather, and to us uninitiated inhabitants of Terra Firma, it appeared as if our doom had arrived. Her Majesty was perhaps the calmest and most philosophical observer of this tremendous scene of confusion, and her collected cheerfulness and courage had its proper effects on her attendants.

After encountering this very severe weather, and being baffled by contrary winds, which, notwithstanding the excellence of our vessel, and the skill of our commander and crew, was sufficient to excite alarm, and seriously increase those inconveniencies which landmen at all times experience on ship-board, we happily reached the roads of Tunis during the night of the 3d of April, and on the morning of the following day Her Majesty and suite disembarked at the fort of Goletta in perfect safety. Her Majesty landed under a royal salute from the frigate, and was received by the admiral and port officers under a similar tremendous salutation from all the Tunisian batteries and vessels in the harbour.

The Goletta, the place of landing, is fifteen miles distant from the city: this distance may be travelled either by land or water, there being a canal, or rather a salt-water lake, which runs nearly up to the houses: from this piece of water the prospect of the town is delightful. It is

said that the ruins of ancient Carthage extend nearly the whole length of the lake. We took up our residence in the house of the English Consul; but two days after, His Highness the Bey made an offer to Her Majesty of a magnificent palace of his own, which had not as yet been occupied, and was not even entirely fitted up. Her Majesty accepted this mark of attention, and went thither with all her suite. Here she was received and treated with all possible marks of respect, and with the honours due to her birth and rank, having constantly a guard of honour at her command, composed of the chief officers of the Bey's household, by whom she was accompanied whenever she went abroad.

At Tunis it is customary to walk out on the roofs of the houses, on which there are terraces for that purpose; and these are so numerous, and so well connected, that it is practicable to make a tour of the town upon them: the streets themselves are very narrow, and extremely dirty. Women, of a certain rank, are not allowed to step beyond their own doors; and when their husbands go abroad, it is customary to lock them up, like slaves, and carry the key in their pocket. It does occasionally happen, but very rarely, that a few women of the lower class are seen in the streets, but in that situation they wear ample cloaks upon their shoulders, and two handkerchiefs over the face, disposed in such a manner that the point of the nose merely and the eyes

can be partially discovered : they have the feet always naked, wearing only an under-sole of wood ; very wide trowsers are generally worn by some, but the common petticoat is sometimes seen. If a husband meet his wife in the street, custom forbids him to accost her, under pain of death ! Some Turks possess as many as ten or twelve wives ; the first of whom is compelled to serve the second, the second the third, and thus with as many as he may have. If one of these have the misfortune to displease him, even in the slightest particular, he has the undisputed power to order her head to be taken off without ceremony ; the Turks being absolute masters in their own houses, and having it in their prerogative to take away the lives of their wives, their children, and their slaves, without being called to any account for it.

Notwithstanding all these precautions, the ingenuity of women devises the means to deceive the watchfulness of their brutal masters and husbands. Ever on the look-out from the barred apertures of their apartments, they observe the Christians who pass beneath, in a personal comparison with whom their Turkish tyrants must certainly suffer infinitely ; the poor injured creatures evince a decided liking for a Christian adventurer, and surely under such circumstances their preference is perfectly pardonable. If they perceive a Christian pass frequently, they take care to prepare a little note, which they throw

down at his feet : frequently it remains unnoticed ; the lady then gains her female duenna by presents : she is dispatched in pursuit of their favourite, solicits, conjures him, and facilitates the means of introducing himself into the house. And woe to those curious or indiscreet persons, who cannot resist the temptation ! whatever pains they may take to disguise themselves as Turks, there are very few who, sooner or later, are not discovered, and so incur the penalty of their folly, which is the loss of their heads, without the smallest chance of escape, or the respite of a moment. As for the unhappy woman, she is remorselessly seized on the instant of discovery, tied up in a sack loaded with stones, and hurled into a deep part of the sea !

On the 6th, Her Majesty went to pay a visit of ceremony to His Highness the Bey, at his country palace, about three miles distant from the town. We were conveyed thither in five carriages, and had about forty military officers on horseback as an escort : they were dressed in different modes, but so fantastically, that they had the appearance of imaginary rather than of real beings. Some wore head-dresses, exactly such as were in fashion in Europe eighty years ago ; others had white handkerchiefs fastened to their heads, and cloaks of different colours, made like mantillas, on their shoulders, all wearing heavy wooden boots. We were greatly amused with the setting out of this grotesque band ; but

were struck most forcibly by the contrast of their ridiculous costumes, with the extreme beauty of the horses on which they were mounted, and their saddles of the finest crimson velvet, richly embroidered with gold, and ornamented with precious stones. The address and activity they display in the management of these fiery animals, is astonishing. During our short journey they went through a curious evolution, with a view to amuse Her Majesty ; a part of them galloped a quarter of a league in advance, then, returning with the rapidity of lightning, loaded their carbines and fired them, carrying on a mock fight with each other. It was surprising to see their horses at full speed, the bridle thrown on their necks, gallop, or rather cleave the air, without deviating from the path ; and the riders, at the same moment, without any manner of support, manage their carbines so actively, and fire them with so much skill. It must be allowed they are unrivalled in this style of warfare ; no European cavalry can compare with them, but in other respects they are as soldiers mean and cowardly. We arrived at the palace of the Bey, surrounded by an immense crowd ; the cannon of the fortress having announced our arrival, the two princes and the chief minister came out to receive Her Majesty. After traversing many courts and anti-chambers, we at length came into the presence of the Bey, who was seated on cushions, and encircled by his ministers and principal officers :

he received the Queen with great politeness, and Her Majesty was pleased to present to him the whole of her suite. After a short conversation, through the medium of an interpreter, he inquired whether she had a desire to see his seraglio; Her Majesty having expressed her assent, His Highness gave her his hand, and we were beckoned to follow. As for the gentlemen, notwithstanding their excessive curiosity, they were under the necessity of remaining at the door, and awaiting us. The first wife of the Bey came to receive Her Majesty, in a sort of circular court, in the centre of the apartments; we were then led into a spacious and magnificent chamber, covered with mirrors, in which were a number of women of all ages, clothed without the least taste, but with great splendour: they were completely loaded with gold, diamonds, and precious stones, from head to foot, and being without stockings, many of them had a diamond chain round the ancle; the fingers, and even the thumbs, were loaded with rich rings, and the tips of them stained black.

We remarked that the greater number of the women were of dark complexion, and that they were much more beautiful than the fair ones, who were in that respect not above mediocrity. Her Majesty, His Highness the Bey, and his favourite wife, were seated on cushions, and black slaves presented them with beautiful napkins embroidered with gold; we were then perfumed

with the finest essences of Barbary in such profusion, that the scent almost overcame us : afterwards a collation was served, such an one as could scarcely have been provided at the most magnificent European fête. It was prepared by a beautiful Italian lady, the wife of the first physician to the Bey : she also did the honours of it. After the collation was introduced the first musical corps of the court, consisting of six women, the youngest of whom was more than sixty years of age. One of these was lame, another had but one eye, a third was blind, and the others had some similar defect ; and all were so immoderately fat, that they could with difficulty move. It was really amusing to see these youthful beauties enter under the charge of an eunuch. They placed themselves on the floor, and commenced playing a sort of charivari, that deafened the ears ; such, however, was the best display of music of the court of Tunis. The air finished ; after a short prelude, one of these divine creatures extended an enormous mouth, and regaled us with the tones of a voice so hoarse and discordant, that it would be injustice to compare it to any other than that of an owl, screaming at night on the tower of some ruined castle ; and it was now more than requisite to remember that we were in the presence of two sovereigns, to enable us to suppress our laughter ; more especially, as Her Majesty had the air of listening with great attention, and bestowed some eulogiums on the

sweet and *harmonious* voice of the beauteous nymph. The Bey was delighted with her complaisance, and assured her that it was his most delightful resource in his moments of ennui and dissatisfaction. The two Princes, who had been present throughout, then begged Her Majesty to condescend to visit *their* seraglio. We found it much more numerous than that of their father, but by no means so rich in its embellishments. There were many women, of different nations, who had been carried off from their parents while yet young. These hapless victims, once immured, never walk forth more ; they live there, and there they end their days. A stranger never meets their eye. As might be expected, they were so much delighted to see us, that they were at a loss how to express their excessive joy. Some of them spoke Italian, but not very well ; great part were seated on cushions, and were so immoderately fat, as to be unable to rise without assistance : these were the most admired, and to them all the homage was paid. Prince Mustapha, entering unexpectedly, caused the same movement among them, as would a wolf in the fold. All were cast down and trembling, but taking courage in some measure afterwards, they went one after the other, with the most profound submission, to kiss his hand ; not according to our custom, but on the palm, for such is the fashion of the Turks. Whilst these unfortunate slaves thus discharged their duty, their tyrant remained

motionless as a statue, without even deigning to bestow on them a glance of approbation or kindness.

A collation was here set before us, extremely well served, and consisting of every rarity and delicacy; and we were again, many times, sprinkled with perfumes. The ladies would not suffer us to depart; and on Her Royal Highness rising, they pressed her to be seated again in such a suppliant manner, that she could not deny them; and it was not till we had made a visit of five hours that we left them, and then apparently much to their sorrow. They accompanied us as far as the court, making the most affecting gestures. O sweet liberty, exclaimed I, on coming out, how inestimable thou art! These unfortunates are buried here alive, condemned to see nought, save the sky, their prison, and the barbarian who sacrifices them to every caprice. Every moment uncertain of their existence, they hold it at the will of him who detains them in his power, and who bereaves them of it when they least expect. Her Majesty having taken leave of His Highness, the Bey, and his court, we returned to Tunis in the same manner, and with the same ceremonies as those with which we had left it.

The spectacle of woman in this most extraordinary state, is revolting to English feeling beyond the powers of description, and we are at length reconciled to the abominable outrage, only

by the reflection, that with the manners, habits, and modes of thinking of the Turks, we have fortunately nothing in common. It affords us some consolation in this shameless perversity, that they are a distinct race of beings, separated from us by barriers, which prevent the possibility of contagion.

In Turkish manners, we see woman, the paragon of human nature, stript of the attributes by which with us she holds a rightful ascendancy; totally deprived of her rank, and brutally degraded into the mere instrument of sensuality. That this is the wretched condition of the inmates of a Turkish seraglio, cannot be doubted; but to satisfy ourselves that in these enormities there exists no conscientious feeling of impropriety, let us but look at the following picture of the mode in which women are bought and sold for these purposes—It is the narrative of a merchant employed to make such purchases, and whose character for veracity may be relied on.

“Theodocia is the great market for Circassian slaves, who have been destined for ages past to be brought for sale at the market of Caffa, like any other kind of merchandize; and what is most singular in this revolting business is, that these beauties, so famous in eastern story, are brought in vast numbers every year by their own parents, and sold at from two to four thousand Turkish piastres each, in proportion to their charms. The fair Circassians, of whom three were offered me

for sale, were brought from their own chamber into mine (as we all lodged in the same inn,) one after another, by the Armenian merchant who had to dispose of them. The first was very well dressed, and had her face covered in the oriental style. She kissed my hand by order of the master, and then walked backward and forward in the room, to shew her fine shape, her pretty small foot, and her elegant carriage. She next lifted up her veil, and absolutely surprised me by her extreme beauty. Her hair was fair, with fine large blue eyes; her nose a little aquiline, with pouting red lips; her features were regular, her complexion fair and delicate, and her cheeks covered with a fine natural vermilion, of which she took care to convince me by rubbing them hard with a cloth. Her neck I thought a little too long; but to make amends, the finest bosom and teeth in the world set off the other charms of this beautiful slave, for whom the Armenian asked four thousand Turkish piastres, but permitted me to feel her pulse, to convince myself that she was in perfect health; after which she was ordered away, when the merchant assured me that she was a pure virgin of eighteen years of age.

“I was more surprised, probably, than I ought to have been (as common usage renders every thing familiar) at the perfect indifference with which the inhabitants of Caffa behold this traffic in beauty, that had shocked me so much; and at

their assuring me, when I seemed affected at the practice, that it was the only method which parents had of bettering the condition of their handsome daughters, destined at all events to the haram, for that the rich Asiatic gentleman, who pays four thousand piastres for a beautiful mistress, treats and prizes her as an earthly hourie, in perfect conviction that his success with the houries of paradise entirely depends on his behaviour to the sisterhood on earth, who will bear testimony against him in case of ill usage; in short, that by being disposed of to rich Mussulmen, they were sure to live in affluence and ease the rest of their days, and in a state by no means degrading in Mahometan countries, where their prophet has permitted the seraglio; but that on the contrary, if they fell into the hands of their own feudal lords, the barbarous inhabitants of their own native mountains, which it is very difficult for beauty to escape, their lot was comparatively wretched, as those rude chieftains have very little of either respect or generosity toward the fair sex.

“The Nogay Tartars, who were the great merchants in this white slave trade, are said to solicit intrigues between their fine women and any handsome European who may chance to pass through their country, in the hope of augmenting their stock of saleable beauty!”

The Bey exhibited the most marked attention and shewed the greatest politeness. A magni-

ficent and abundant table was kept for Her Majesty and the whole suite. She was attended with the state of a queen, in her own palace: we never went out without the attendance of a guard of honour, which remained constantly in the palace, awaiting commands. We made several small excursions, in which the Bey provided us with horses, and we usually slept at some one of his country houses, where every thing was pre-arranged for our accommodation in the most elegant and commodious style. Her Majesty visited Utica, celebrated for the self-destruction of Cato, the last of the Roman republicans. She went also to Saroine, where there are many vestiges of ancient days, among others the celebrated aqueduct which supplied the city of Carthage with water: it is sixty miles in length, and of great interest and curiosity. The roads are in so bad a state, that it requires no small degree of courage to pass them in a wheeled vehicle. At one time we had to descend, as it were, a ladder, and ford a river; at another we were compelled to pass over precipices, and fragments of rock, so large, that the carriage was jolted quite off the ground. We were, notwithstanding, encouraged to proceed, by the interest of the objects of inquiry.

Her Majesty afterwards visited the site of Carthage itself, so greatly celebrated as the rival of Rome. This city, the birth-place of the renowned Hannibal, was once of extreme grandeur and

beauty, and the emporium of commerce, but was afterwards destroyed and reduced to ashes by the Romans; and on its site is now to be seen nought but a few old and miserable houses.

Her Majesty had purposed to spend the entire month of April at Tunis; but the British fleet arriving there unexpectedly, rendered it necessary to abandon that intention. It will be recollected, that the object of this visit of the British and Dutch fleets, was to demand reparation for certain depredatory injuries committed by these corsairs on British subjects and property, and to demand, as a preliminary measure, the immediate and unconditional release of a considerable number of Europeans, who were held in slavery by them. The Bey of Tunis, to whom the first application was made for this purpose, at first appeared obstinately resolved to refuse submission; and as it then appeared probable that active measures of hostility would be promptly used to compel his acquiescence, the British admiral, Lord Exmouth, attended Her Majesty, with a full representation of the affair in contemplation, and a request to be allowed to place her in a state of safety. Preparations were now therefore made for our departure with the utmost promptitude and dispatch, and several boats of the English fleet were sent on shore by the admiral, for the purpose of embarking our baggage. The inhabitants of Tunis, observing these decisive marks of the admiral's intentions, were in great con-

sternation, expecting every hour to bring with it the horrors of a bombardment ; and Her Majesty's precipitate departure seemed to confirm their conjectures, which were, indeed, but too well founded, two hours only being allowed for reflection. The Bey could scarcely persuade himself that these warlike menaces were serious, and affected to hesitate in making a formal decision ; until, learning that Her Majesty was on the point of quitting the town, and that the baggage was already actually shipped, he became terrified by the promptitude of the resolution, and at length justly estimating the danger which hung over him, he already imagined that he saw Tunis subjected to the horrors of a bombardment, to which the town, although well fortified, must soon have yielded, or have resisted at the price of its utter destruction.

His Highness, aware that time was important, and the danger pressing, now dispatched his prime minister to Her Majesty, praying her to obtain an interview with Lord Exmouth, being now fully resolved to surrender the slaves demanded of him. Notwithstanding this arrangement actually took place, Her Majesty persevered in her design of quitting Tunis : it appeared as if she foresaw the revolution which took place some time afterwards, and which would doubtless have been pregnant with mischief to her, had she unfortunately been present. The Bey, who had with his own hands put his brother to death, and

procured the cruel murder of his nephews, as a means of establishing himself upon their throne, was in that revolution dispatched by his eldest son, who assumed his seat. The youngest fled to the Goletta, took possession of five brigs of war, and did not scruple to become a leader of corsairs, and to infest the seas, in company with his worthy comrades, committing the most horrible outrages.

We embarked on the 22d, and with a very brisk wind passed in front of the fleet. Each ship saluted Her Majesty with twenty-one rounds of cannon, the usual royal honours; the ships were dressed in their colours, and the yards fully manned with seamen in gala, the whole producing a very grand effect. Her Majesty left the bay of Tunis on the 24th for Greece.

Throughout the east much is said in praise of the beauty of the Georgian and Circassian women, slaves brought to Constantinople, and there sold while young, and thence scattered all over Turkey, in order to serve in the harems, or produce children to their masters. These women, from the account which has been given us of them by the female Christians of the country who frequent them, and from the small number of those whom the practice of medicine has afforded European physicians an opportunity to see, have European features: almost all are fair, with dark

hair; some have flaxen or light brown hair; all are finely proportioned when they are young; but they generally acquire, through repose, good living, and the frequent use of baths, an *em bon point*, which constitutes the delight of the Turks, and which, nevertheless, exceeds the limits of beautiful proportion.

The Turks have nearly the same idea of the beauty of women as the Europeans, except that, in general, they prefer the fair with dark hair, those with light brown to the flaxen, and an excessive *em bon point* to thinness: it may even be said that women in good health, and plump, please them much better than those whose shape is slender, whose person and limbs are pliant, and not very fleshy.

One must not be surprised that these women are, in general, very well made, since they are the choice of all that is most beautiful among those that are sold in the Turkish markets by the parents themselves. But what must excite astonishment is, that avarice should overcome religious prejudices; that a father and mother, at the sight of gold, should shut their heart to tenderness and to the sweetest affections; that they should abandon and give up without remorse a child, to be brought up in a different religion, and serve for the pleasures of whoever will purchase her.

The price of these slaves in the markets of

Constantinople varies like that of all merchandise, and is regulated according to their number and that of the purchasers. They commonly cost from five hundred to one thousand piastres, (from fifty to one hundred pounds sterling.) But a female slave of a rare beauty, amounts to an excessive price, without there being a necessity for exposing her to sale, because most of the rich are ready to make pecuniary sacrifices in order to procure such for themselves. The men in place, and the ambitious, are likewise eager to purchase them, in order to lay them at the feet of their sovereign, or present them to their protectors; and thus place about them women who, being indebted to them for their elevation, may endeavour through gratitude to contribute to that of their former masters.

In no case does a female slave expose her person entirely to him who wishes to purchase her; this is contrary to Ottoman decorum and manners; but when she is marriageable, it frequently happens that the purchaser insists on an examination by a matron of his own appointing.

We should form a false idea of slavery among the Turks and the eastern nations, were we to judge of it from that which the Europeans have established in their colonies, and above all from the accounts of the unfortunate captives of the coast of Barbary, who have been made to undergo harsh treatment, and been tormented in a thousand ways, in order to oblige them to embrace

the Mussulman religion. In Turkey, and in Persia, slaves of both sexes, commonly purchased before the age or the period of puberty, are brought up in the religion of Mahomet, and treated with the same kindness, and almost with the same respect, as the sons of the family. It seldom happens that a Turk sells again a slave with whom he is dissatisfied; he contents himself with threatening him, and even with punishing him as he would punish a son.

CHAPTER XX.

*Departure from Tunis.—Voyage.—Storm at Sea
—Danger of Shipwreck—Succeeded by a beautiful
Calm.—Delightful serenity of the Climate of
Greece.—Scene at Sunset.—General Character
of the Greeks—Their personal Beauty.—Arrival
at Athens.—General account of its Antiquities.*

HER Majesty's abrupt departure from Tunis left us little time for preparation for our next sea trip; but the general state of excellence of our accommodation on board our vessel left us little to regret on this account.

Our course now lay towards the classic shores of Greece, and our expectations as to the length of the voyage did not exceed a few days, laying our account however with continued fair weather and favourable winds. In these respects we had in this instance the mortification to share the common fate of all adventurous travellers. At noon of the third day we were overtaken by a profound calm; a lurid light illumined the gloomy and threatening atmosphere. About sunset the darkness that enveloped us was truly appalling, and a tremendous uproar ensued. A hurricane burst upon the vessel. In a moment the sea was agitated to such a degree, that its surface exhi-

bited one continued sheet of foam. The ship, which scarcely obeyed the helm, was like a black spot upon the whitened ocean; the violence of the wind seemed to raise her out of the water; she turned round in every direction, plunging her head and stern alternately in the waves. The return of light shewed the extent of our danger. Providence was however pleased to save us. A slight variation of the wind enabled us at noon to clear the land, and we found ourselves once more in the open sea. The wind getting round again to a favourable quarter, we ventured to hoist some sail, and bore away; but the wind having lulled about eight o'clock in the evening, and the sea being perfectly smooth, the ship now remained motionless. Here we enjoyed the first sunset and the first night beneath the sky of Greece. The colours produced by the setting sun were not brilliant; that luminary descended between clouds which he tinged of a roseate hue; he sunk below the horizon, and twilight supplied his place for half an hour. During this short interval, the sky was white in the west, light blue at the zenith, and pearl grey in the east. The stars, one after another, issued from this admirable canopy; they appeared small, not very brilliant, but shedding a golden light, so soft, that it is impossible for me to convey any idea of it. The horizon of the sea, skirted with a slight vapour, was blended with that of the sky.

In speaking of the general character of the

Greek inhabitants of this part of the world, we have in fairness so much to praise, that we may fear the being taxed with drawing an overcharged picture : the present moment, however, which is probably to determine their fate for ages to come, renders honourable mention of them a service, a duty to humanity, and confers proper dignity on our own narrative. It may be now truly asserted, that the Greeks have still some of the noble blood which flowed in the veins of their ancestors. Greece, though conquered, polished Rome—but the conquerors were *Romans*. But Greece when conquered by the Turks, did not polish them—for the conquerors were *Turks*. To the humiliating state of depression in which they are held by the Turks, we may attribute, with obvious truth, most of the defects of the Grecian character as it exists at present. Notwithstanding this humiliation, we may safely assert, that their superiority over the Turks in knowledge is surprisingly great : we may contend, that their imagination is lively, that their genius and invention are fertile, that they bear the Turkish yoke with impatience, and that they possess a spirit of enterprise, which often prompts them to noble achievements, and will eventually procure them emancipation.

“ The man of these charming parts of Greece is of a handsome stature : he carries his head high, his body erect, or rather inclined backward than forward : he is dignified in his carriage, easy in

his manners, and nimble in his gait ; his eyes are full of vivacity ; his countenance is open, and his address agreeable and prepossessing. He is neat and elegant in his cloathing : he has a taste for dress, as for every thing that is beautiful. Active, industrious, and even enterprising, he is capable of executing great things. He speaks with ease, he expresses himself with warmth : he is acquainted with the language of the passions, and he likewise astonishes by his natural eloquence. He loves the arts, without daring to cultivate them, under the brazen yoke which hangs heavy on his neck. Skilful and cunning in trade, he does not always conduct himself in it with that frankness which constitutes its principal basis ; and though we still find in modern Greece many of the fine qualities which do honour to the history of ancient Greece, it cannot be denied that superstition, the child of ignorance and slavery, greatly tarnishes their lustre ; and we also discover in their disposition that fickleness, that pliability, that want of sincerity, in short, that artful turn of mind which borders on treachery, and of which the Greeks of antiquity have been accused.

“ But this obliquity of character fortunately does not extend, or at least is very much weakened, among the women of the same countries. The Greek females are, in general, distinguished by a noble and easy shape, and a majestic carriage. Their features, traced by the hand of

beauty, reflect the warm and profound affections of sensibility : the serenity of their countenance is that of dignity, without having its coldness or gravity : they are amiable without pretension, decent without sourness, charming without affectation. If to such brilliant qualities we add elevation of ideas, warmth of expression, those flights of simple and ingenuous eloquence which attract and fascinate, a truly devoted attachment to persons beloved, with a surprising exactness and fidelity in their duties, we shall have some notion of these privileged beings, with whom nature, in her munificence, has embellished the earth, and who are not rare in Greece. It may be said that there indeed it is that the genius of the artists of antiquity would still have the choice of more than one model."

On our approach to the coast our vessel was becalmed at a short distance from the island of Anti-Milo, off which we remained an entire day : a strong breeze from the south-east at length drove us as far up as the island of Egina. We then lay to : the sky became suddenly overcast, and we were unable to distinguish the coast, and the forms of the mountains. They were however to be seen at intervals, when the lightning flashed, while heavy thunder-claps rolled over the city of Minerva. This lasted during the night, and we were apprehensive of a gale coming on, but the sea was not agitated in any extraordinary degree.

On the following day we entered the Piræus,

the port of Athens. The beach is at first sandy, then dark and argillaceous, and pretty generally covered with small ruins, amid which is situated the house of the Turkish collector of customs.

After waiting for horses a considerable time, we set out with all convenient diligence. We first had to ascend a small barren hill, which leads to a road through a well cultivated plain, which is planted with olive-trees, and across which lay the ruins of the great wall of Themistocles. A thick forest of olive-trees, of the age of Pericles, covered the vines, the boughs of which were intwined around the branches of these trees, which, in remote times, had witnessed the most glorious triumphs. The cultivation of Attica brought to my remembrance that of the south of Italy. With hasty and anxious steps we now proceeded towards a height, from which we should be enabled to procure a sight of Athens: we were approaching that glorious city of antiquity, and our anxiety was now on the stretch. We were at length gratified with a view of this sacred spot, this temple of liberty, of glory, and of the arts. The Acropolis appeared detached from the surrounding objects, and around it hovered a dark cloud, the remains of the storm of the preceding evening. The sun's rays struck powerfully on these masses of white marble, which have preserved so pure a colour amid the constructions of the barbarous ages. The old walls surrounding the Propylæum seem huddled together, to augment the eclat of the little that is left of the

beautiful structures of Phidias. The temple of Theseus next opened on our view: farther on, to the right, appeared the Pnyx, the hill of the Museum, the Areopagus, the monument of Philopappus, and on the left, Mount Anchesmus; and to complete this picture, which seems in a manner to realize the bold composition of the beautiful landscapes of the luxuriant fancy of Poussin. Not a tree is to be seen in this direction to enliven the prospect: an extent of half a league of rocky, broken, and parched soil, separates the city from the wood of olives, which is itself not altogether devoid of beauty. We were considerably abstracted with the scene before us, until modern Athens, the immediate object of our inquiry, was disclosed to us by her lofty minarets. This city is surrounded by low walls, and with gates, which may be compared to those of the meanest farm-houses in Europe. It is modestly stationed at the foot of the Acropolis, and is now silent as the slave who feels ashamed of his misery and chains.

We had now to pass through narrow streets, and through the principal bazar, to reach the house of M. Fauvel, the French consul. The retreat of this gentleman is truly that of a philosopher, but is nevertheless embellished with taste. It is surrounded by the ruins of ancient Athens: within, trunks of columns and capitals afford seats; and shelter is procured from above by a covering of antique tiles. Tombs and inscriptions,

distributed around, bring to the traveller's remembrance the names, the enterprises, and the misfortunes of those who, in times long past and gone, have struggled through the oppressions and sorrows of life.

The attentions of this gentleman during Her Majesty's stay at Athens, were unremitting and most respectfully assiduous : his rich collection was laid open to us, and Her Majesty duly appreciated the advantages and the satisfaction of inspecting, in his company, these noble ruins, which have engrossed the whole of his attention for thirty years past ! The extent of his researches has been immense ; and even where he entertains doubts, he does not fail to afford instruction.

He appeared to be, at this time, about sixty-five years of age, and was just recovered from a severe illness, notwithstanding which, his vivacity and his wit, still unabated, served to foster discussion, and render the scene of double interest.

His house is situated between the ruins of the library of the Ptolemies, and the temple of Theseus. When in the evening we were seated on the terrace, we could distinctly hear the discordant music of the Egyptian slaves, who assemble together occasionally to forget their bondage : they performed Nubian dances on the very spot where the festival of the founder of Athens was once celebrated.

Our first excursion led us towards the temple of Minerva, and the Propylæum, to which we

South View of, Athens, as it appeared in the Time of Lucianus
with the Palladium, or celebrated Temple of Minerva.





ascended with anxious curiosity and respect. These admirable, these venerable marbles, are much defaced by the obscure names of the different travellers who have visited Athens for some centuries past.

The impression on the mind amidst these sacred ruins is so intense, that we feel a diffidence, a solemn awe, which seems to deprive us in a great measure of the power of utterance: we speak in half whispers. Here it was that the echo we still reverence once repeated the rival and celebrated songs of the victories of Theseus.

We advanced slowly among a heap of reversed columns and broken friezes, to the spot where once stood the statue of Minerva, and on the site of which a small mosque has now been erected.

This great destruction is not the work of ages, the ravages of which are scarcely any where to be discerned: the fine polish of the marble, the sharp angles, and the compactness of the masonry, every thing, in short, unites to absolve time, and to accuse the barbarous hand of man.

At sun-rise it was my delight to seat myself on the summits of the marble walls of the Parthenon, whence I could overlook this immense theatre of the pomp, the dissensions, and the combats of the nations of Attica. With these remembrances my imagination was filled: all was animated around me; I could imagine the sea covered with victorious fleets; the songs of triumph re-echoed along the shores. I could fancy Megara

starting from her antique tomb ; Eleusis invest herself with her crown of flowers and corn-spikes ; and proud Corinth endeavour to shake off the dust from her brow, on which in days of yore gold shone gloriously resplendent.

The Pnyx still seemed to expect the tumultuous and frivolous crowd, the multitude, agitated as the waves of the sea, once there assembled. I fancied I could hear even the praises her orators lavished on her. But those days of glory, of proud contentions, and of cruel proscriptions, with all the passions which spring from liberty, were become mute as the ashes and ruins which surrounded me.

When I awakened from my reveries, I could not but feel myself overwhelmed with melancholy : I looked around me, but could perceive nothing besides immense heaps of ruins, sterile plains, and a deserted sea ; while my ears were assailed with lamentations, and with the clamours of the disdar-Aga, the commander of the Chateau, inflicting abuse and punishment on his miserable slaves.

Athens contains a population of from ten to twelve thousand Greeks, Turks, and Albanians, the latter of whom predominate in the twenty thousand souls who people Attica. It is surrounded by low and ill-built walls, which were repaired, and in a great measure re-constructed in 1772, under the inspection of the chief of the Bostangis, the Vayvode of Athens. All the Greeks resident

in the city, were, without exception, compelled to work. Thirty drums were in constant beat, to cheer them and their fellow-labourers in their toils; and this new Amphion completed his singular operation in less than three months. Having in the sequel abused the power confided to him, he was strangled at Cos, where he had retired, after having completely stripped the inhabitants of Attica. His house, and the gardens attached to it, which have been much admired, are situated near those of the ancient Academy: they belonged to the Validé-Sultan. A few trees, and several fine basins of water, were the only objects that drew my particular attention at this spot. At a small distance from it are the vestiges of three tombs, which may have been those of Chabrias, Pericles, and Thrasybulus: two of them have been demolished; but the third resembles the monument of the Horatii at Albano. M. Fauvel has been frustrated in his attempts to dig beneath it. These tombs were near the ancient walls, the traces of which are still apparent. The best authorities fix at seven *stadia*, an ancient Greek measure of length, about equal to our furlong, the distance which separated the gate Dipylon from the Academy: this estimate places the present gate, styled that of the Egyptians, nearly at the same spot with the above gate; whence it would appear that the ancient circumference of Athens was not very great. We next come to the gate Mandravili, leading to the temple of

Theseus; to that of Mnemouria, or the gate of the tombs; to that of Indi Baba, so named by the Turks, because an Indian dervich there took up his residence; to the gate of Hadrian; to that of Bobonistra, which leads to Marathon, to the Lyceum, and to the Stadium; and, lastly, to the gate of el-Djeryd, formerly the gate Hippades, without which were the horse-races: and here likewise the Turks amuse themselves in various exercises.

By Her Majesty's directions we dug near the gate of the Piræus in search of antiquities, but were not very successful. We found, however, in a tomb, a vase of the description of those which are commonly called Etruscan vases, of a fine form, and of the best workmanship. When, at length, after several ineffectual attempts, the sound of the tools and pick-axes gave notice of a construction, of an arch-roof more especially, the workmen and spectators were gladdened with joy. This occupation has indeed all the interest of the chase: we waited impatiently until the first bricks were removed.

The adjacent shores are entirely covered with ruins: but the parts where the long walls were united with those of the Piræus and Phaleron are to be traced. We fancied we could make out the place where the markets stood; and also, near the great haven, the ruins of the portico of Leschai, and those of the temple of Venus, erected by Œdipus. A Greek monastery has

been built on the remains of the altar of the Paphian goddess; and the vestiges of a theatre are seen close on those of the citadel of Munychia; and steps also indicate an amphitheatre near the temple of Diana.

The approach to this celebrated city by sea presents a spectacle of so great splendour and interest, and a general view is so essential to the reader, that I will again devote a few lines to it.

Athens is no sooner descried, than its lofty edifices, catching the sun's rays, render the buildings in the Acropolis visible at the distance of fifteen miles.

The reflected light gives a white appearance. The Parthenon appears first, above a long chain of hills in the front; presently we see the top of Mount Anchesmus, to the left of the temple; the whole being backed by a lofty mountainous ridge, which we suppose to be Parnes.

As we drew near to the walls, we beheld the vast Cecropian citadel, crowned with temples that originated in the veneration once paid to the memory of the illustrious dead, surrounded by objects telling the same theme of sepulchral grandeur, and now monuments of departed greatness, gradually mouldering in all the solemnity of ruin. So paramount is this funeral character in the approach to Athens from the Piræus, that, as we passed the hill of the Museum, which was

in fact an ancient cemetery of the Athenians, we might have imagined ourselves to be among the tombs of Telmessus, from the number of the sepulchres hewn in the rock, and from the antiquity of the workmanship, evidently not of later date than any thing of the kind in Asia Minor. In other respects the city exhibits nearly the appearance so briefly described by Strabo eighteen centuries before our coming; and perhaps it wears a more magnificent aspect, owing to the splendid remains of Hadrian's temple of Olympian Jove, which did not exist when Athens was visited by the disciple of Xenarchus. The prodigious columns belonging to this temple appeared full in view between the citadel and the bed of the Ilissus: high upon our left rose the Acropolis, in the most impressive grandeur: an advanced part of the rock upon the western side of it is the hill, or the Areopagus, where St. Paul preached to the Athenians, and where their most solemn tribunal was held. Beyond all, appeared the beautiful plain of Athens, bounded by Mount Hymettus. We rode towards the craggy rock of the citadel, passing some tiers of circular arches at the foot of it: these are the remains of the Odeum of Herodes Atticus, built in memory of his wife Regilla. Thence continuing to skirt the base of the Acropolis, the road winding rather towards the north, we saw also upon our left, scooped in the solid rock, the circular sweep on

which the Athenians were wont to assemble to hear the plays of Æschylus, and where the theatre of Bacchus was afterwards constructed.

We proceeded towards the east, to ascend Mount Anchesmus, and to enjoy in one panoramic survey the glorious prospect presented from its summit, of all the antiquities and natural beauties in the Athenian plain. We ascended to the commanding eminence of the Mount, once occupied by a temple of Anchesmian Jupiter. The Pagan shrine has, as usual, been succeeded by a small Christian sanctuary : it is dedicated to St. George. Of the view from this rock, even Wheler could not write without emotion. " Here," said he, " a Democritus might sit and laugh at the pomps and vanities of the world, whose glories so soon vanish ; or an Heraclitus weep over its manifold misfortunes, telling sad stories of the various changes and events of fate." The prospect embraces every object, excepting only those upon the south-west side of the castle. The situation of the observer is north-east of the city ; and the reader may suppose him to be looking, in a contrary direction, towards the Acropolis, which is in the centre of this fine picture ; thence, regarding the whole circuit of the citadel, from its north-western side, towards the south and east, the different parts of it occur in the following order, although to a spectator they all appear to be comprehended in one view.

The lofty rocks of the Acropolis, crowned with

its majestic temples, the Parthenon, Erectheum, &c. constitute the central object. In the foreground is displayed the whole of the modern city of Athens, with its gardens, ruins, mosques, and walls, spreading into the plain beneath the citadel. On the right, or north-west wing, is the temple of Theseus; and on the left, or south-west wing, the temple of Jupiter Olympius. Proceeding from the west to the south and east, the view beyond the citadel displays the Areopagus, the Pnyx, Ilissus, the site of the temple of Ceres in Agræ, the Fountain Callirhoe, the Stradium Parthenaicum, the site of the Lyceum, &c. In a parallel circuit, with a more extended radius, are seen the hills and defile of Daphne, or Via Sacra, the Piræus, Munychia, and Phalerium, Salamis, Ægina, the more distant isles, and Hy-mettus. A similar circuit, but still more extended, embraces Parnes, the mountains beyond Eleusis and Megara, the Acropolis of Corinth, the Peloponnesian mountains, and the Ægean and distant islands. And lastly, immediately beneath the eye, lies the plain of Athens.

On passing the middle of modern Athens, and proceeding directly west, the houses begin to be more detached, and then appear large vacant spaces, some enclosed within the walls of the city, and others lying without the walls. In these forsaken spaces we find the temple of Theseus, the Pnyx, and the Areopagus. This temple is in better preservation than any other edifice

in Athens: after having long been a church dedicated to St. George, it is now used for a storehouse.

The Areopagus was situated on an eminence to the west of the citadel. You can scarcely conceive how it was possible to erect a structure of any magnitude on the rock where its ruins are to be seen. A little valley, called in ancient Athens Cœle, the hollow, separates the hill of the Areopagus from the hill of the Pnyx and that of the citadel. In the Cœle were shewn the tombs of the two Cymons, of Thucydides, and Herodotus. The Pnyx, where the Athenians first held their popular assemblies, is a kind of esplanade, formed on a steep rock, at the back of the Lycabettus. A wall, composed of enormous stones, supports this esplanade on the north side; on the south stands a rostrum, hewn out of the solid rock, with an ascent of four steps, likewise cut out of the rock. I take notice of these circumstances, because ancient travellers were not accurately acquainted with the form of the Pnyx. Lord Elgin, a few years since, caused this hill to be cleared of the rubbish; and to him we are indebted for the discovery of the steps. As you are not yet quite at the top of the rock, you cannot perceive the sea without ascending above the rostrum. The people were thus deprived of the view of the Piræus, that factious orators might not lead them so easily into rash enterprises, as if they had before their eyes the spec-

tacle of their power and of their fleets. The Athenians were ranged on the esplanade, between the circular wall which I have mentioned, on the north, and the rostrum on the south.

In this rostrum there it was that Pericles, Alcibiades, and Demosthenes, delivered their orations; that Socrates and Phocion harangued the people, in the most mellifluous and the most expressive language in the world. It was here that so many unjust acts were committed, that so many iniquitous and cruel decrees were pronounced. This was, perhaps, the spot where Aristides was exiled, where the entire population of a city was sentenced to die, where a whole nation was doomed to slavery. But it was here too that illustrious citizens raised their generous voices against the tyrants of their country; that justice triumphed, that truth was heard.

Having sufficient time left before dark, we proceeded from the Pnyx to the hill of the Museum. This hill is crowned by the monument of Philopapus, a monument in a bad taste; but in this instance it is the person, and not the tomb, that deserves the attention of the traveller. This obscure Philopapus, whose sepulchre is seen at such a distance, lived during the reign of Trajan.

We then returned into Athens. It was dark, and the consul sent to apprise the governor of the citadel that we should pay it a visit the next morning before sun-rise. Oppressed with fatigue,

I had been for some time fast asleep, when I was suddenly waked by the Tambourine, and the Turkish bag-pipe, whose discordant tones proceeded from the top of the Propylæa. At the same time a Turkish priest began to sing the hour in Arabic, to the Christians of the city of Minerva. I cannot describe what I felt; this man had no occasion to mark so precisely the flight of time; his voice alone, on this spot, announced but too clearly the lapse of ages!

This fickleness of human things is the more striking, as it forms a contrast with the stability of the rest of nature. As if to mock the revolutions of human societies, the very animals are liable to no convulsions in their empires, to no alterations in their manners. When we were on the hill of the Museum, I observed a number of storks forming in battalion, and speeding their flight towards Africa. Thus for two thousand years they have performed the same journey; they have remained independent and happy in the city of Solon, as well as in the town of the chief of the black eunuchs. From their lofty nests, which no revolutions can reach, they have beheld a total change in the race of mortals beneath them: while impious generations have sprung upon the tombs of religious generations, the young stork has never ceased to feed his aged parent. If I pause to indulge in these reflections, it is because the stork is a favourite with travellers;—the prophet Jeremiah says, ‘like

them, it knoweth the seasons in the heavens.' I had seen these birds perched on the wigwams of the savage: On meeting with them again in another species of desert, on the ruins of the Parthenon, I could not forbear devoting a few words to my old companions.

The next morning, at half past four, we went up to the citadel. The top of the hill is surrounded with walls, partly of ancient and partly of modern construction: other walls formerly encompassed its base. In the space comprised within these walls are, in the first place, the relics of the Propylæa, and the ruins of the temple of Victory. Behind the Propylæa, on the left, towards the city, you next find the Pandroseum, and the double temple of Neptune Erectheus and Minerva Polias; lastly, on the most elevated point of the Acropolis, stands the temple of Minerva. The rest of the space is covered with the rubbish of ancient and modern buildings, and with the tents, arms, and barracks of the Turks.

The summit of the rock of the citadel is about eight hundred feet long, and four hundred broad; its figure is nearly an oval, with the narrowest end next to Mount Hymettus. It should appear to be a pedestal formed expressly for the purpose of supporting the magnificent structures by which it was crowned; and without repeating here what every one may find elsewhere, I shall content myself with making a few general reflections.

The first thing that strikes you in the edifices

of Athens, is the beautiful colour of those monuments. In our climate, in an atmosphere overcharged with smoke and rain, stone of the purest white soon turns black, or of a greenish hue. The serene sky, and the brilliant sun of Greece, merely communicate to the marble of Paros and Pentelcus, a golden tint, resembling that of ripe corn, or the autumnal foliage.

The correctness, the simplicity, and the harmony of the proportions, next demand admiration. You here see neither order upon order, column upon column, nor dome upon dome. The temple of Minerva, for example, is a simple oblong parrallelogram, adorned with a vestibule, a portico, and raised upon three steps, which run all round.

This portico occupied near one-third of the total length of the edifice. The interior of the temple was divided into two distinct naves, which were separated by a wall, and which received all their light from the door. In one was seen the statue of Minerva, the work of Phidias; and in the other was kept the treasure of the Athenians. The columns of the vestibule and portico rested immediately upon the steps of the temple: they were without bases, fluted, and of the Doric order: they were forty-two feet in height, and seventeen and a half in diameter at the bottom; the intercolumniation was seven feet four inches; and the whole structure was two hundred and eighteen feet in length, and ninety-eight and

a half in breadth. The frieze of the vestibule was decorated with triglyphs of the Doric order : small tablets of marble, intervened between the triglyphs. On these tablets, Phidias or his pupils had sculptured the battle between the Centaurs and the Lapithæ. The top of the wall of the temple, or the frieze of the Cella, was decorated with another basso relievo, probably representing the festival of the Panathenæa. Pieces of excellent sculpture, but of the time of Adrian, the period of the renovation of the art, adorned the two pediments of the temple. Votive offerings, and likewise the shields taken from the enemy in the Persian war, were suspended on the outside of the edifice. The circular marks left by the latter are still to be seen in the architrave of the pediment facing Mount Hymettus. This circumstance leads us to presume that the entrance was on that side, contrary to the general opinion, which places it at the opposite end. Between these shields were placed inscriptions, probably in letters of brass, if we may judge from the marks of the nails by which they were affixed. It is conceived that these nails might perhaps have served to fasten up garlands. I am convinced that if the Turks would give permission, the inscriptions of the Parthenon might be deciphered by these marks.

Such was the temple, justly considered as the master-piece of architecture, both ancient and modern. The harmony and the strength of all

its parts are still conspicuous in its ruins; for we should form a very erroneous idea of it, were we to represent it to ourselves as merely a handsome but small structure, loaded with chasing and festoons, in our manner. There is always something puny in our architecture when we aim at elegance, or heavy when we aspire to majesty.

Architecture, considered as an art, is in its principle eminently religious: it was invented for the worship of the Deity. The Greeks, who had a multitude of gods, were led to different kinds of edifices, according to the ideas which they entertained of the different powers of those gods. We, who adore but one single Author of nature, have, properly speaking, but one single natural style of architecture, the Gothic. In the Grecian style we are but imitators of a work, whose principles we pervert, by introducing into the habitations of men those ornaments, which by the Greeks were applicable to the temples of worship alone.

Next to their general harmony, their accordance with places and sites, their adaptation to the purposes for which they were designed, what must be admired in the edifices of Greece, is the high finish of all the parts. In them, the object which is not intended to be seen, is wrought with as much care as the exterior compositions. The junctures of the blocks which form the columns of the temple of Minerva are so perfect as to require the greatest attention to discover them,

and to leave a mark no thicker than the finest thread. In order to attain this extraordinary perfection, the marble was first reduced to its proper shape with the chisel, after which, the two pieces were rubbed one upon the other, and sand and water thrown upon the centre of friction. The courses, by means of this process, were placed with incredible precision.

The roses, the plinths, the mouldings, the astragals, all the details of the edifice exhibit the same perfection. The lines of the capital, and the fluting of the columns of the Parthenon, are so sharp, that you would be tempted to suppose that the intire column had passed through a lathe. No turner's work in ivory can be more delicate than the Ionic ornaments of the temple of Erectheus : and the cariatides of the Pandro-seum are perfect models. If, after viewing the edifices of Rome, those of England appear coarse, the structures of Rome seem barbarous in their turn, after having seen the monuments of Greece : not even excepting the famed Pantheon, the comparison may be easily made at Athens, where the Grecian architecture is often placed quite close to the architecture of Rome.

I had fallen into a common error respecting the monuments of the Greeks : I had an idea that they were perfect as a whole, but deficient in grandeur ; but the genius of the architects has given in proportional grandeur to these monuments, what they may want in size ; and Athens,

moreover, is full of prodigious works. The Athenians, a people neither rich nor numerous, raised gigantic piles: the stones of the Pnyx are absolute masses of rock: the Propylæa were an immense undertaking, and marble slabs with which they were covered, surpassed in dimensions any thing that was ever seen of the kind; the height of the columns of the temple of Jupiter Olympus, perhaps exceeds sixty feet, and the whole temple was half a mile in circumference: the walls of Athens, including those of the three harbours, extended over a space of near nine leagues; the walls which connected the city with the Piræus, were so broad, that two chariots might run abreast upon them, and were flanked with square towers at intervals of fifty paces. The Romans themselves never erected fortifications of greater magnitude.

By what fatality is it that these master pieces of antiquity, which the moderns come so far and with such fatigue to admire, partly owe their destruction to the moderns? The Parthenon existed entire in 1687: the Christians first converted it into a church; and the Turks, from jealousy of the Christians, changed it in their turn into a mosque. Amidst the illuminations of science that pervaded the seventeenth century, the Venetians came and cannonaded the monuments of the age of Pericles: they fired red hot balls on the Propylæa and the temple of Minerva; a ball fell upon the latter, penetrated the roof,

set fire to some barrels of gunpowder, and blew up part of an edifice, which did less honour to the false gods of Greece than to human genius. The town being taken, Morosini, with a view to embellish Venice with the spoils of Athens, attempted to remove the statues from the pediment of the Parthenon, and broke them to pieces. Another modern came, out of love to the arts, to accomplish the work of destruction which the Venetians had begun,

The invention of fire arms is a fatal circumstance for the arts. Had the barbarians of old been acquainted with gunpowder, not a Grecian or Roman edifice would have been left standing; they would have blown up the very pyramids, had it been only to seek for hidden treasures. One year of war among us, destroys more buildings than an age of fighting did among the ancients. Thus it would seem, that among the moderns, every thing opposes the perfection of the art; their climate, their manners, their customs, their dress, and even their very discoveries.

We passed the whole morning in the examination of the citadel. The Turks had formerly stuck the minaret of a mosque to the portico of the Parthenon. We ascended by the half destroyed stair-case of this minaret; we seated ourselves on a broken part of the frieze of the temple, and looked around us. We had Mount Hymettus on the east, the Pentelicus on the north, the Parnes on the north west, the mounts Icarus,

Cordyalus, or Ægalæa on the west, and beyond the former was perceived the summit of the Cithæron; and to the south-west and south appeared the sea, the Piræus, the coasts of Salamis, Ægina, Epidaurus, and the citadel of Corinth.

Below us, in the hollow, whose circumference I have just described, were seen the hills and most of the monuments of Athens; to the south-west the hill of the Museum, with the tomb of Philopappus; to the west the rocks of the Areopagus, the Pnyx, and the Lycabettus; to the north the little Mount Achesmus, and to the east the hills which overlook the Stadium. At the very foot of the citadel lay the ruins of the theatre of Bacchus, and of Herodes Atticus. To the left of these ruins stood the huge-detached columns of the temple of Jupiter Olympius: and still farther off, looking toward the north-west, we perceived the site of the Lyceum, the course of the Ilissus, the Stadium, and a temple of Diana or Ceres. In the west and north-west quarter, towards the large wood of olive-trees, our guide pointed out the site of the outer Ceramicus, the Academy, and its road bordered with tombs. Lastly, [in the walls formed by the Anchesmus and the citadel was seen the modern town.

You must now figure to yourself all this space, partly waste, and covered with a yellow heath; partly interspersed with olive-groves, fields of barley, and vineyards. The imagination must represent shafts of columns and heaps of ancient

and modern ruins, scattered among these cultivated lands ; and whitened walls, and the inclosures of gardens intersecting them. You must scatter over this space Albanian women fetching water, or washing the garments of the Turks at the wells ; peasants going and coming, driving asses, or carrying provisions on their backs to the city. You must conceive all these mountains which have such striking names, all these celebrated ruins, all these islands, all these seas no less famous, illumined by a brilliant light. From the summit of the Acropolis, I beheld the sun rise between the two peaks of Mount Hymettus ; the crows which build their nests around the citadel, but never soar to its summit, hovered below us : their black and polished wings were tinged with roseate hues by the first radiant beams of Aurora ; columns of light blue smoke ascended in the shade, along the sides of the Hymettus, and marked the gardens where the bees are kept ; Athens, the Acropolis, and the ruins of the Parthenon, were coloured with the most beautiful tints of peach-blossom ; the sculptures of Phidias struck horizontally by a ray of gold, started into life, and seemed to move upon the marble, from the mobility of the shadows of the relief : in the distance, the sea, and the Piræus, were perfectly white with the light ; and the citadel of Corinth, reflecting the brilliancy of the rising day, glowed on the southern horizon like a rock of purple and fire.

From the spot where we were placed, we might in the prosperous times of Athens have seen her fleets standing out of the Piræus to engage the enemy, or to repair to the feasts of Delos; we might have heard the griefs of Œdipe, Philoctetus, and Hecuba, burst from the theatre of Bacchus; we might have listened to the applauses of the citizens, and the orations of Demosthenes. But, alas! no sound met our ears, save a few shouts from an enslaved populace, issuing at intervals from those walls which so long re-echoed the voice of a free people. To console myself, I said what we are obliged to be continually repeating; Every thing passes away, every thing must have an end in this world. Whither are fled those divine geniuses, who reared the temple on whose ruins I was seated? This sun, which perhaps beamed yesterday on the last moment of the poor peasant girl of Megara, had witnessed the death of the brilliant Aspasia. This picture of Attica, this spectacle which I contemplated, had been surveyed by eyes that have been closed above two thousand years. I too shall soon be no more; and other mortals, transitory as myself, will make the same reflections on the same ruins!

On returning from the citadel we went to dinner, and in the evening walked to the Stadium, on the other side of the Ilissus. The Stadium has perfectly retained its form; but the marble seats with which it was adorned are no longer to be seen. As to the Ilissus, its channel is now dry.

If you dig ever so little in the bed of the Ilissus, you are certain to find water at a very small depth below the surface; and this is so well known to the Albanian women, that they make a hole in the bottom of the ravine, when they are going to wash linen, and immediately meet with water. It is therefore highly probable, that the channel of the Ilissus has been gradually choked with stones and gravel, washed down from the hills, and that the water at present runs between two beds of sand.

On our return from the Ilissus, we passed over waste grounds, where the site of the Lyceum must be sought. We next came to the large detached columns, standing in that quarter of the city which was denominated new Athens, or the Athens of the emperor Adrian. These pillars are the remains of the Portico of the one hundred and twenty columns; which it is presumed belonged to the temple of Jupiter Olympus. They are so considered by travellers. On a portion of the architrave, which still connects two of these columns, is seen a mean building, formerly the habitation of a hermit. It is impossible to conceive how this hut could have been built on the capitals of these prodigious columns, which are perhaps upwards of sixty feet in height. Thus, this vast temple, at which the Athenians worked for *seven hundred years*; which all the kings of Asia coveted the honour of finishing; which Adrian, the master of the world, had alone the glory to complete: this

temple has been laid low by the attacks of time, and the cell of an Anchorite still continues standing upon its ruins ! a miserable hovel of plaster is supported in the air by two columns of marble, as if fortune had determined to exhibit to mankind on this magnificent pedestal, a monument both of her triumphs and her caprices.

These columns, though much more lofty than those of the Parthenon, are far inferior to them in beauty : the degeneracy of the art is observable in them ; but as they stand insulated and scattered over a naked space, they produce a surprising effect. I stopped at their bases to listen to the wind whistling about their summits : they resemble those solitary palm-trees which are here and there to be seen among the ruins of Alexandria. When the Turks are threatened with calamities of any kind, they bring a lamb to this place, and force it to bleat while they hold up its head towards the sky. Unable to find the voice of innocence among men, they have recourse to the young of the harmless sheep to avert the wrath of heaven !

We returned to Athens through the gate, over which is seen the well-known inscription :

THIS IS THE CITY OF ADRIAN,
AND NOT THE CITY OF THESEUS.

CHAPTER XXI.

Account of the ancient Monuments of Athens continued.—Her Majesty's Excursions in Athens and its Neighbourhood.—The Harbours of Phalereus and Piræus.—The supposed Site of the Temples of Juno and Ceres.—The Tomb of Aristides.—Monument imagined to be that of Themistocles.—Impressive Solitude of the Athenian Harbours.—The Temple of the Winds—Remarkable religious Ceremonies observed there by Dervises.—Mussulman Women—Reflections on their Condition—Their singular Ceremonies in the Contraction and Consummation of Marriage described.

ON a delightful morning we mounted our horses very early, and leaving the city, took the road to the Phalereus. As we approached the sea, the coast gradually became more elevated, and terminated in heights, the buildings of which form, to the east and west, the harbours of Phalereus and Piræus. On the beach of the Phalereus, we discerned traces of the walls that encompassed the port, and other ruins which were heaps of rubbish: these were, perhaps, the temples of Juno and Ceres. Near this spot, lay the little field and tomb of Aristides. We went down to the

harbour, a circular basin, with a bottom of fine sand, capable of containing about fifty boats. This was exactly the number that Menestheus conducted to Troy.

From the harbour of Phalereus we proceeded to that of Munychia, which is of an oval figure, and rather larger than the former. Lastly, turning the extremity of a craggy hill, and advancing from cape to cape, we reached the Piræus. Our guide stopped in the curvature, formed by a neck of land, to shew us a sepulchre excavated in the rock : it is now without roof, and is upon a level with the sea. By the regular flowing and ebbing of the tide, it is alternately covered and left exposed, by turns full and empty. At the distance of a few paces on the shore are seen the remains of a monument. It is the opinion of the learned, that in this place the bones of Themistocles were deposited. This interesting discovery is, however, contested. It is objected, that the fragments scattered around, are too fine to have been the tomb of Themistocles ; and that, according to the ancient geographers quoted by Plutarch, this tomb was in reality an altar.

All travellers are astonished at the solitude of the Piræus : we were much impressed by it. We had explored a desert coast, had surveyed three harbours, and in these three harbours had not perceived one single vessel. Nothing was to be seen but ruins, rocks, and the sea ; and no sound met the ear, save the cries of the king-fisher,

and the dashing of the surges against the tomb of Themistocles, producing an incessant murmur in this abode of eternal silence. Washed away by the billows, the ashes of the conqueror of Xerxes reposed beneath them, commingled with the bones of the vanquished Persians. In vain my eye sought the temple of Venus, the long gallery, and the statue emblematic of the people of Athens: the image of that inexorable people was for ever fallen, near the well, to which the exiled citizens repaired, to no purpose, to reclaim their country. Instead of those superb arsenals, those porticos whence the galleys were lunched, and whence reverberated the shouts of the seamen; instead of those edifices, resembling the city of Rhodes in their appearance and beauty, we now saw nothing but a dilapidated convent, and a magazine in ruins. Here, in a wretched hut of wood, a Turkish custom-house officer sits all the year round, the lonely sentinel of the coast, and a model of stupid patience: whole months elapse without his witnessing the arrival of a single vessel. Such is the present deplorable condition of these once famous harbours. What can have destroyed so many of the stupendous monuments of the arts of mankind?

The port of the Piræus forms a bow, the two ends of which approach so near to each other as to leave only a narrow passage: it is now called the Lion's Port, from a lion of marble, which was formerly to be seen there, but was removed to

Venice by Morosini in 1686. The interior of the harbour was divided into three basins. You still see a wet dock, almost half filled up, which may possibly have been one of them. The historian Strabo affirms, that the great port of Athens was capable of holding four hundred ships, and Pliny swells the number to a thousand. Fifty of the brigs of modern Europe would completely fill it; and two of our frigates would not ride there at their ease, with a considerable length of cable. But the water is deep, and the bottom excellent; so that in the hands of a civilized nation, the Piræus might even now become an important harbour. The only warehouse now to be seen there is of French origin, having been erected by M. Gaspari, formerly the Consul of France, at Athens. Thus it is not long since the Athenians were represented at the port of the Piræus, by the nation which bears the nearest resemblance to them.

Having rested for a short time for refreshment at the custom-house, and at the monastery of St. Spiridion, Her Majesty returned to Athens by the road from the Piræus. We perceived the remains of the long wall the entire extent of the way. We passed the tomb of Antiope the Amazon. We rode among the most beautiful low vines, as in Burgundy. We stopped at the public reservoirs, and under olive-trees; and I had the mortification to find that those precious remains of antiquity, the tomb of Menander, the cenotaph of Euripides, and the little temple dedicated to

Socrates, no longer exist ; or rather, as we may suppose, they have not yet been discovered. We pursued our way, and on approaching the Museum, our guides pointed out to us a path winding up the side of a hill. This path, they informed us, had been made by a Russian artist, who every day repaired to the same spot to take views of Athens. If genius be no other than patience, as some philosophers have asserted, this painter must certainly possess a considerable share of that quality.

It is near four miles from Athens to the Phalereus ; three or four from the Phalereus to the Piræus, following the windings of the coast, and five from Piræus to Athens ; so that, on our return to the city, Her Majesty had made a tour of about twelve miles in this excursion.

The temple of the four Winds is an exquisite structure, in fine preservation ; and the exterior is ornamented with the most beautiful sculpture, descriptive of the powers to which it was held sacred : this temple is at present, however, converted into a mosque, and here the dervises perform their singular and most extravagant ceremonies. Never surely was any scene witnessed more extraordinary, more frightful ! In the outset of the ceremony, the premier or chief dervise sings or chants a kind of hymn, which the rest of the party repeat after him : they then seize him with seeming violence by the hand, and utter such incoherent and dreadful cries, that they appear

to lose their breath, and actually seem on the very point of suffocation. Two of them then strip off their gowns, their shoes, and their turbans, beat their bosoms with an enraged air, tear up their dishevelled locks, like furies, from every part of their heads, shriek and cry out again till they are again out of breath, and then whirl and turn themselves rapidly round, until their eyes grow dim, and they fall to the earth. Afterwards there comes forward another in the same way, with his hair wild and dishevelled, his dress half stripped off, and a dagger or knife grasped in his hand, which, after many horrid gestures, he plunges into his own bosom : the rest of this extraordinary group wipe up the blood with their hair : one of them takes a drop, and smears it on his face, and the others instantly lay hold of him, and toss him about violently among them, until he becomes senseless and falls. All then throw aside their turbans, the music commences a quick air, and they again spin or turn round as if distracted, kneel, kiss the earth, and rise again. The chief priest now holds a crown in his hand, and cries "Nolan la Mahomed, Nolan la;" and the rest repeat the same words, in different tones, and the most confused and incoherent manner. The priest next places himself in the direction of Mecca, (where lies the tomb of their prophet) and in this position bows repeatedly, and profoundly; in which salutations his example is followed by the others, who bow in the same manner, and turn

rapidly round again to the sound of a sort of music, but which is indeed little better than the striking together of a pair of sandals. They at length conclude by embracing each other, and kneeling, with great seeming devotion, kiss the earth. It is impossible, without witnessing this ludicrous and uncouth scene, to form a correct idea of the sensations which are called forth by it: at one moment it is difficult for one to repress laughter; at another, pity and dread powerfully contend for the mastery. I was myself so overcome by terror, that I involuntarily seized a native who was at my side for support, and trembled from head to foot in extreme agitation. It is forbidden to be a spectator of these horrible ceremonies, but Her Majesty had asked especial permission, and obtained it as a high favour.

The extreme singularity of the Turkish customs as respects their women, renders it almost impossible to pass a day among them without experiencing some violence done to our European habits and modes of thinking in that respect, which disturbs the thoughts and the pursuits. Of their many singularities on this head, there are perhaps none which more astonish an Englishman than their extraordinary customs in the construction of their marriages.

The Mussulman women live very retired, and do not appear in public without a veil, and garments which conceal their figure, and disguise their whole body; there is no one but the husband

and the nearest relations, such as the fathers, the brothers, and the uncles german, who sometimes have access to the harems, can see a Mussulman woman with her face uncovered. The man who wishes to marry, can be acquainted with the charms of the person and the attractions of the mind of his future wife, only from the account of some female relation or friend, or of some intermediatrix of an advanced age: commonly the latter gives every information that is wanted, tries to smooth all difficulties which may arise, and prepares and arranges all matters. When the relations are agreed among themselves, they fix the sum that the husband shall give as a present to his wife, as a price. An inventory is taken of every thing that belongs to the latter, in furniture, clothes, money, or property, because every thing is to be restored to her in case of divorce or repudiation. When she dies without children, the husband keeps a part of what he has received, and returns the other to the relations, as is regulated by the law.

The preliminaries being settled, the future husband, the father, or the nearest relation of the young lady, go with two witnesses to the house of the *cadi*, in order to get him to sign the articles of the marriage, and obtain a permission for it in writing. The celebration of the marriage cannot take place but on the eve of the Friday, which answers among the Mussulmans to the Sunday of the Christians, and to the Saturday of the Jews

One or two days before, the young lady is conducted to the bath, where she is subjected to depilation for the first time. On the day of the wedding, she dresses herself in the richest clothes that she can procure, and covers herself with jewels, pearls, and pieces of money, which the relations very often borrow. They try to embellish the young lady's face, by colouring it with red, white, and blue, and by painting her eye-brows and eye-lids black. In certain countries, they next colour the arms and hands with black, paint the nails yellow or black, and the feet an orange colour yellow; lastly, they place with art, on the head-dress, and among the braids which hang behind, flowers, pearls, precious stones, and gold coin. In Egypt and in Syria, these braids are very numerous, and each is terminated by one or more sequins.

Thus adjusted, and placed on a seat more elevated than the sofa, she is to compose her carriage, cast her eyes down or keep them shut, while a troop of women invited to the feast give themselves up to joy, and various dances are performed, the company singing or playing on different instruments.

At night, the female relations of the husband, and some women invited by them, come with flambeaux and a noisy band of music to the house of the young lady, in order to take her to that of the husband. She goes out accompanied by her female relations and friends: the men do not

follow her, but remain at their homes, amusing themselves.

Being arrived at the husband's house, she is perfumed and placed on an elevated seat, prepared on purpose for her. All the women not belonging to the family go out a moment after, and there no longer remain any but the female relations of the contracted couple.

The bridegroom, during this time, is in another apartment, where his relations, and some young men whom he has invited, perfume him, dress him in his richest clothes, and sing songs analogous to the ceremony.

A moment after, all the men, accompanied by their music, sally forth in order to proceed to the mosque. They say their prayers with the greatest composure, after which they come to the door of the husband's house, where he enters, accompanied only by his relations. While the husband is at the mosque, the bride is brought into the apartments that are intended for her. On returning from the mosque, the father of the husband, or any other relation the most advanced in years, leads by the hand the husband to his wife, presents him to her, and retires. There now remains with them no one but the midwife, or a female relation, who serves up a supper to the husband, while the wife continues standing before him in a very humble attitude. After supper, the latter presents to her husband a basin, water, and a towel, in order that he may wash and wipe

himself: she then gives him a pipe and coffee, after which she herself sups. When she has supped, the midwife withdraws, and the married couple remain by themselves.

On the succeeding day the bride is required to be in a modest attitude: she is to observe silence, keep her eyes cast down, and to remain quiet on the sofa, while all the women around her are abandoning themselves to joy and the most unbounded expressions of merriment and gladness.

In some of the Greek islands, such is the extremity to which the Turkish yoke is enforced on them, and such their extraordinary modes of exercising their will, that a Greek inhabitant is not allowed to marry without the express permission of the aga or governor, which he is in all cases compelled to purchase by a present proportioned to his utmost means, and the fitness of which is rigorously examined into. A sheep, a lamb, fowls, &c. are the general offerings on these occasions. If the fair one should chance to please the taste of the aga, he even sometimes determines, in the unbounded licence of his power, to keep her *for himself*, and this without any one, much less the abused husband, daring to oppose or question the abominable tyranny. The cudgel at least is ever ready for the shoulders of the miserable and reluctant Greek; and woe be to the audacious man who should be rash enough to prefer a complaint to the pacha of the province,

or to the PORTE! He would assuredly pay with his fortune, and frequently with his head, for the boldness of such a step. The aga, in such a case, is supposed to marry the woman with her free consent. Ottoman manners oppose his living with her; and if she persisted in refusing to receive his hand, however powerful the aga might be, he would be obliged to desist from his pretensions. Not unfrequently, after having kept this Greek woman two or three years, he turns her off for another, obtained in the same brutal and licentious way, and marries the now discarded female to some Greek inhabitant, who dares not for his life refuse her. It is asserted, that it is uncommon for a Greek woman not to consider herself flattered at thus sharing the bed of her lord, whether he be young or old, whatever may be the shame which the men attach to it, and the fate which she must inevitably experience sooner or later; so true is it, that here, as every where, authority is seductive, and vanity not to be resisted.

Married men are not permitted to quit some of the islands, unless they are either mariners or merchants. There has been seen hanging to the mast of his boat a captain of a vessel, who had dared to infringe this oppressive law, and who had, by stealth, carried some unhappy beings to the gulf of Ephesus. Bachelors are, nevertheless, permitted to go and work in the Morea and elsewhere; but a tax of sixty parats, or two piastres (about 3*s.* 6*d.* English money) per head, is required of them before their departure.

CHAPTER XXII.

Modern Excavations among the Greek Tombs.—Remarkable aspect of Solemnity of Athens—The Appearance of the City in a general Prospect—Depredations on its Antiquities—The Acropolis—The Parthenon—Immense and beautiful Piece of ancient Greek Sculpture.—Gipsey Straw Hats worn by the ancient Greeks.—Ancient gilt Statues.—The Propylea—Its immense Blocks of Marble.—The Theatre of Regilla—Erected in honour of a Wife.—Greek Theatres.

THE business of making excavations among the Grecian tombs was then beginning in the neighbourhood of Athens, and it has since abundantly rewarded the taste of those travellers under whose patronage such labours have been carried on.

Travellers, who will be at the pains to excavate the soil in the vicinity of Athens, will be amply rewarded for their trouble. The vases which Signor Lusieri has found in digging near the city are, in their form and general execution, not to be surpassed by any that have been discovered in Italy and Sicily. Among other remains of antiquity, he has found musical instruments, ornaments of dress of various kinds, earrings of gold, and mirrors. These last are of metal. We find mention of the employment of tin and silver in the fabrication of them: the Jews and

Egyptians used those made of brass. In the time of Pompey there were some of silver.

We observed the remains of the ancient paved way leading from the Piræus; also, of an aqueduct. As we drew near to the walls, we saw the vast Cecropian citadel, crowned with temples which have originated in the veneration once paid to the memory of the illustrious dead, surrounded by objects of sepulchral grandeur, and now monuments of departed greatness, mouldering in all the solemnity of ruin. So paramount is this funeral character in the approach to Athens from the Piræus, that as we passed the hill of the Museum, which was in fact an ancient cemetery of the Athenians, we might have imagined ourselves to be among the tombs from the number of the sepulchres hewn in the rock, and from the antiquity of the workmanship, evidently not of later date than any thing of the kind in Asia Minor. In other respects, the city exhibits nearly the appearance briefly described by historians eighteen centuries ago; and, perhaps, it wears a more magnificent aspect, owing to the splendid remains of Adrian's Temple of Jupiter Olympus, which did not then exist. The prodigious columns belonging to this temple appeared full in view between the citadel and the bed of the river Ilissus. High upon our left rose the Acropolis, in the most impressive grandeur: an advanced part of the rock, upon the western side of it, is the hill of the Areopagus, where

St. Paul preached to the Athenians, and where their most solemn tribunal was held. Beyond all, appeared the beautiful plain of Athens, bounded by Mount Hymettus. We rode towards the craggy rock of the citadel, passing some tiers of circular arches at the foot of it; thence continuing to skirt the base of the Acropolis, the road winding towards the north, we saw also upon our left, scooped in the solid rock, a circular sweep, on which the Athenians were accustomed to assemble for theatrical exhibitions, and the scite of the theatre of Bacchus, afterwards built. The part of a statue of the Indian Bacchus, in a sitting attitude, upon the monument of Thrasyllus above this theatre, afforded us the first specimen of Grecian sculpture which we had seen upon the spot; and with the additional satisfaction of viewing it in the situation where it was originally placed. Upon the eastern side of this statue, fastened in the rock, appeared a still more interesting relic, namely, the very ancient sun-dial, which, in the time of Æschylus, and of Sophocles, indicated to the Athenian people the hour at which their theatrical amusements were to begin. Above this statue are the two pillars for supporting tripods, standing high upon the steep acclivity of the rock. Many of these interesting objects now no longer exist in Athens, having been pulled down and transported to England. We now entered the gate of the modern city; and among the first objects we beheld was the

only remaining structure of all the consecrated fabrics that once adorned the famous street of the Tripods, the elegant monument of Lysicrates.

A mistaken opinion prevailed until towards the end of the seventeenth century, that the remains of Athens had been almost rased from the earth, and that even its name no longer existed. The few merchants who resorted to the port of the Piræus, from Italy, and from other parts of the Mediterranean, had given it a barbarous appellation, although, of all the ancient cities in Greece, unquestionably there is no one which has preserved its name with more success than Athens; both Greeks and Turks calling it by its proper appellation."

As we ascended the steep rock on which the citadel stands, the first object of wonder was the power displayed by the ancients, in conveying up so tremendous an acclivity the enormous masses of marble necessary in the construction of their numerous sumptuous edifices; when all the skill and ingenuity of the best workmen in Europe have been found requisite, in our time, to remove some of the most delicate ornaments of the temples, in an entire state, from the Acropolis to the lower city. None of the materials of those temples are of the same nature as the rock upon which they were erected: the quarries of the most distant mountains of Greece contributed to the works necessary for their completion. All the huge blocks of marble required for the several

parts of each building must have been moved up the same steep ; for there is now, as there was formerly, but one way facing the Piræus by which the summit may be approached. In our ascent, we found an imperfect inscription on white marble ; and, somewhat higher up, we also saw, among some loose stones used as the materials of a wall near to the gate of the citadel, a piece of sculpture of white marble in very beautiful relief, representing a male figure. This proved to be nothing less than a fragment belonging to the celebrated Parthenon ; and a mere fragment, as the undoubted work of Phidias, could not but be regarded as a valuable relic, and a very great curiosity. Upon the left we observed in the face of the rock, the small cavern which is considered as the Grotto of Pan : the Philistines sent back “ the ark of the God of Israel,” in “ a new cart,” drawn by “ two milch kine,” beneath the northern or Pelasgic wall of the Acropolis. And it is rather remarkable, that in a garden below this grotto, at the foot of the rock, there was discovered a marble statue of Pan, of a size to suit the cavity, which exactly corresponds with the description of the ancient image in the grotto, bearing a trophy upon its head.

As we approached to the present entrance of the citadel, we passed before the façade of the Propylæa ; the old entrance to the Acropolis between its Doric pillars being walled up. The Turkish guard at the gate suffered us to pass.

To a person who has seen the ruins of Rome, the first suggestion made by a sight of the buildings in the Acropolis, is that of the infinite superiority of the Athenian architecture. It possesses the greatness and majesty of the Egyptian, or of the ancient Etruscan style, with all the elegant proportions, the rich ornaments, and the discriminating taste of the most splendid æra of the arts. Accustomed as we now already were to the contemplation of the ancient and modern magnificence of Rome, and, by what we had heard and read, impressed with an advantageous opinion of Athens, we found preconceptions greatly inferior to the beauty of the real object. In all that relates to harmony, elegancè, execution, beauty, and proportion, the Parthenon stands greatly pre-eminent; every portion of the sculpture by which it is so highly decorated, has all the delicacy of a miniature or a model. For our own parts, in viewing the Parthenon, we were affected by its solemn appearance, and dazzled by its general splendour and magnificence.

By means of the scaffolds raised against the Parthenon, for the artists who were engaged in moulding and making drawings from the sculpture upon the frieze, we were enabled to ascend to all the higher parts of the building, and to examine, with the minutest attention, all the ornaments of this glorious edifice. The sculpture representing the Combats of the Centaurs, is in such bold relief, that the figures are all of

them actually statues. Upon coming close to the work, and examining the state of the marble, it was evident that a very principal cause of the injuries it had sustained, was owing, not as it had been asserted, to "the zeal of the early Christians, the barbarism of the Turks, or to the explosions which took place when the temple was used as a powder magazine," but to the decomposition of the stone itself, in consequence of the action of the atmosphere during so many ages. The mischief has originated in the sort of marble which was used for the building.

Of all the magnificent objects to be seen in the Parthenon, the splendid solemnity of the festival is the most beautiful. It is the best production of artists of ancient Greece, in one continued picture, above three feet in height, and originally six hundred feet in length, of which a very considerable portion now remains, and is alone worth a journey to Athens; nor will any artist deem the undertaking to be unprofitable, who should visit Greece for this alone. The whole population of the ancient city, animated by the bustle and business of the occasion, seems to be exhibited by this admirable work; persons of either sex and of every age, priests, charioteers, horsemen, cattle, victors, youths, maidens, victims, gods, and heroes, all enter into the procession: every countenance expresses the earnestness and greatness of the occasion; and every magnificence of costume, and varied disposition of the

subjects, add to the effect of the representation. It is said of Phidias, that, as a sculptor, he particularly excelled in his statues of horses : perhaps some notions may be conceived of the magic of his art, when it is related, that of a hundred horses introduced by him into this work of splendour, there are not two, either in the same attitude, or which are not characterized by a marked difference of expression. We became acquainted with some curious circumstances, by being able to examine the marble closely : the bridles of the horses were originally of gilded bronze, which we perceived by the holes left in the stone for affixing the metal, and by small portions of the bronze itself, found in the work. We should hardly have believed that such an article of dress as the leathern boot, with its top turned over the calf of the leg, was worn by the ancient Athenian, as well as by English horsemen, if we had not seen it so represented upon the figures of some of the young horsemen in this procession ; and as coxcomically adapted to the shape of the leg, and set off with as great nicety, as for a London jockey. Another singular piece of foppery, worn also by the Athenian beaux, consisted of a light *gipsy hat*, perhaps made of straw, tied with ribands under the chin. We noticed the figure of a young horseman with one of these hats, who seemed, from his appearance in the procession, to be a person of distinction, curbing a galloping steed ; but the wind had blown the hat from his

head, and, being held by the ribands about the neck, it hung behind the rider as if floating in the air: the sculptor having evidently availed himself of this representation to heighten the appearance of action in the group, and nothing could be more spirited. That this kind of hat was considered as a mark of distinction, seems to be probable, from the circumstance of its being still worn by the Patriarchs of the Greek church: it appears upon the head of the Patriarch of Constantinople, as he is represented by ancient wood-cuts, and also, by attending to its appearance upon Grecian vases, we may perceive that it was worn by no common individuals. A beautiful figure of Actæon, with this kind of hat, is preserved upon one of the Greek marbles in the University Library at Cambridge.

We saw with the same advantage all the remaining sculpture of this stately edifice; and visited it afterwards, to examine the different parts more leisurely. Among the remains of the sculpture in the western pediment, which is in a very ruined state, the artists had observed, not only the traces of paint with which the statues had anciently been covered, but also of gilding. It was usual to gild the hair of the statues which represented deities, and sometimes other parts of the bodies.

The Erectheum, which is situate at the distance of about a hundred and fifty feet to the north of the Parthenon, has generally been de-

scribed as consisting of three contiguous temples ; that of Erectheus, of Minerva Polias, and of Pandrosus ; but it seems more consistent with the description and allusions to this building in the works of ancient authors, to suppose that the whole structure was called Erectheum, and consisted only of two contiguous temples ; that of Minerva Polias, with its portico towards the east ; and that of Pandrosus towards the west. The Turks had made a powder magazine of one of the vestibules of this building ; so that it was necessary to creep through a hole in the wall, in order to see the finest specimen of Ionic architecture now existing : it was an inner door of one of the temples ; and it has been judiciously remarked of the sculpture every where displayed in this edifice, that “ it is difficult to conceive how marble has been wrought to such a depth, and brought to so sharp an edge, the different ornaments having all the delicacy of works in metal.” Within this building, so late as the second century, was preserved an olive tree, which was said to be as old as the foundation of the citadel. A very curious relic of this kind may be seen at Cawdor Castle, near Inverness, in Scotland ; in which building a hawthorn-tree of great antiquity is very remarkably preserved. Tradition relates, that the original proprietor of the edifice was directed by a dream to build a castle exactly upon the spot where the tree was found ; and this was done in such a manner as to

leave no doubt but that the tree existed long before the structure was erected. The trunk of this tree, with the knotty protuberances left by its branches, is still shewn in a vaulted apartment at the bottom of the principal tower: its roots branch out beneath the floor, and its top penetrates the vaulted arch of stone above, in such a manner, that any person seeing it is convinced the masonry was adjusted to the shape and size of the plant, a space being left for its admission through the top of the vault. The hawthorn tree of Cawdor Castle, and the traditionary superstition to which it has owed its preservation during a lapse of centuries, may serve as a parallel to the history of the Athenian olive, by exhibiting an example nearly similar; the one being considered as the Palladium of an ancient Highland clan, and the other regarded as the most sacred relic of the Cecropian citadel. We next examined the remains of the Propylæ. Over the entrance may be seen one of those enormous slabs of marble, called marble beams by travellers, and to which ancient writers particularly allude, when, in describing the Propylæa, they say, that even in their time, nothing surpassing the beauty of the workmanship, or the magnitude of the stones used in the building, had ever been seen. This magnificent building, fronting the only entrance to the citadel, has also experienced some of the effects of the same ill-judged rapacity which was levelled against the Parthenon.

If the influence of a better spirit do not prevent a repetition of the rage of collecting Grecian antiquities, Athens will sustain more damage in being visited by travellers, calling themselves persons of taste, than when it was forgotten by the world, and entirely abandoned to its barbarian possessors: in a few years the traveller, even upon the spot, must be content to glean his intelligence from the representation afforded by books of travels, if he should be desirous to know what remained of the fine arts so lately as the middle of the last century.

We then descended, to visit the theatre of Regilla, (the building we had passed in the morning,) at the foot of the rock of the Acropolis, and upon its south-western side. The remains of this edifice are those which former travellers have described as the theatre of Bacchus. Chandler considered it as the Odeum of Pericles, rebuilt by Herodes Atticus. It appears however to have been a magnificent theatre, erected by Herodes in memory of his wife. All the remaining parts of this most costly theatre are, first, three rows of circular arches, one row above another, facing the south-west; secondly, that part intended for the seats of the spectators, at present almost choked with earth. Nearly all that we know of the building is derived from an accidental allusion made to it by one ancient writer. It was considered as far surpassing, in magnitude and in the costliness of its materials, every other

edifice of the kind in all Greece. The roof of it was of cedar. The space for the seats was scooped in the solid rock of the citadel; a practice so ancient, that this circumstance alone induces the belief that some more ancient theatre existed upon the spot before Herodes added any thing to the work. The first thing that strikes a modern traveller, in viewing the Grecian theatres, is the shallowness of the space for the stage. It is hardly possible to conceive how, either by the aid of painting, or by scenic decoration, any tolerable appearance of distance or depth of view could be imitated.

The actors must have appeared like our modern mountebanks upon a waggon. But so little is known of the plan of an ancient theatre, and the manner in which the dramas were represented, that the most perfect remains which we have of such structures leave us still in the dark respecting the parts necessary to compose the entire building. The Greek theatres were in general open; but the Odeum of Regilla was magnificently covered, as has been stated, with a roof of cedar. In their open theatres, the Greeks, being exposed to the injuries of weather, commonly made their appearance in large cloaks; they also made use of the *sciadion*, answering to our umbrella, as a screen from the sun. The plays were performed always by day-light. When a storm arose, the theatre was deserted, and the audience dispersed themselves in the outer gal-

leries and adjoining porticos. During their most magnificent spectacles, odoriferous liquors were showered upon the heads of the people. The custom of scattering similar offerings upon the heads of the people was often practised at Venice during the Carnival.

By the word Theatre, the ancients intended the whole body of the edifice where the people assembled to see their public representations. The parts designed for the spectators were called the pit, the rows of benches, the corridors, &c. The other principal parts of the theatre, belonging to the actors, were called the orchestra, the proscenium, and the scene, that is to say, the front or face of the decorations. The interior structure extended in an arc of a circle, reaching to the two corners of the proscenium: above that portion of the circumference were raised four-and-twenty rows of benches, surrounding the pit, for the spectators. These benches, in their whole height, were divided into three sets by the corridors, consisting of eight rows in each division. The corridors ran parallel to the rows of seats, and were of the same form; they were contrived as passages for the spectators from one part of the theatre to another, without incommoding those who were seated; and for the same inconvenience, there were little steps that crossed the several rows, and reached from one corridor to another, from the top to the bottom, so that persons might ascend or descend without incom-

moding the audience. Near to those stair-cases were passages leading to the outer porticos, by which the spectators entered to take their places. The best places were in the middle tier, upon the eight rows between the eighth and the seventeenth bench. This part of the theatre was set apart for the magistrates. The other tiers were appropriated to the citizens, after they had attained their eighteenth year. Along each corridor, at convenient distances, in the solid part of the structure were small cavities, containing brass vessels, open towards the scene. Above the upper corridor, there was a gallery or portico for the women; but those who led disorderly lives had a place apart for their particular reception. Strangers, and persons who had not the freedom of the city, were also placed in them. Individuals had also sometimes a property in particular places, which descended by succession to the eldest of the family.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Description of the Greek Theatres—The Areopagus—The precise spot on which St. Paul preached to the Athenians—Reflections on the importance and perils of his undertaking—Impressive Beauties of the Scene—Temple of the Winds—The Bazar, or Market—State of the Arts and Manufactures in Athens—The Art of manufacturing Pictures in Athens.—The Gymnasium of Ptolemy—Ancient Marbles—Temple of Theseus—The Place of Interment of Mr. Tweddell, an English Traveller of modern times—Description of the Temple.

THUS much for the parts appropriated to the spectators. With regard to others belonging to the drama, the orchestra (an elevation out of the pit) began about fifty feet from the face of the stage, and ended at the proscenium. Its height was about four feet; its shape, an oblong parallelogram, detached from the seats of the spectators: here were stationed the musicians, the choir, and the mimics. Among the Romans it was destined for a more noble use; the Emperor, the Senate, the vestals, and other persons of quality, having their seats upon it. The stage was raised seven feet upon the orchestra, and eleven above the pit; and above it stood an altar dedicated to Apollo. The part called the scene was

nothing more than the columns, and architectural decorations, raised from the foundations and upon the wings of the stage, merely for ornament. The theatres of Greece and Asia Minor were not solely appropriated to plays and public shows; sometimes they were used for state assemblies; and occasionally as schools, in which the most eminent philosophers harangued their scholars. St. Paul was desirous to go into the theatre at Ephesus to address the people, during the uproar caused by Demetrius.

From the theatre of Regilla we went to the Areopagus; wishing to place our feet upon a spot where it is so decidedly known that St. Paul had himself stood, when he declared to the Athenians the nature of the unknown god whom they so ignorantly worshipped, and opposed to it the new doctrine of Christians. They had brought him to the Areopagus to explain the nature of the rash enterprise in which he was engaged; and to account for the temerity of an appeal which called upon them to renounce their idols, and abolish their most holy rites. It is not possible to conceive a situation of greater peril, or one more calculated to prove the sincerity of a preacher, than that in which the Apostle was here placed. Here the disciples of Socrates and of Plato, and the whole learning and weight of the Academy, were addressed by a poor and lowly man, who enjoined precepts contrary to their taste and hostile to their prejudices; and

one of their peculiar privileges of the Areopagitæ seems to have been set at defiance by the zeal of St. Paul upon this occasion, that of inflicting extreme punishment upon any person who should slight the celebration of the holy mysteries, or blaspheme the gods of Greece. We ascended to the summit by means of steps cut in the natural stone. The sublime scene here exhibited is so striking, that a brief description of it will prove it to be a commentary upon the Apostle's words, as they were delivered upon the spot. He stood upon the top of the rock, and beneath the canopy of heaven. Before him there was spread a glorious prospect of mountains, islands, seas, and skies; behind him towered the lofty Acropolis, crowned with all its marble temples. Thus, every object, whether in the face of nature or among the works of art, conspired to elevate the mind, and to fill it with reverence towards that Being "who made and governs the world."

Within the Peribolus of the Areopagus was the monument of Œdipus, whose bones, according to Pausanias, were brought hither from Thebes; and the actual site of the altar, mentioned by the same author, may still be seen in the rock. It is scarcely necessary to repeat the history of a place so well known, and so long renowned for the impartial judgment which was here administered. We turned from it towards the Temple of Theseus, which exists almost as perfect as when it was at first finished. Having gratified our curiosity

by a hasty survey of the outside of this building, which, although not of so much magnitude as the Parthenon, ranks next to it in every circumstance of design and harmonious proportion; we entered the modern city by a gate near to the Temple.

The next morning, we received a visit from the English consul, who accompanied us to the Wai-vode, or Turkish governor. This ceremony being over, our guide conducted us to see the famous marble Temple of the Winds, at a short distance from the bazar. This is an octagonal building, of great beauty and antiquity. The soil has been raised all around the tower, and in some places accumulated to the height of fifteen feet: owing to this circumstance, the spectator is placed too near to the figures sculptured in relief upon the sides of the edifice; for these appear to be clumsy statues, out of all proportion to the building. Lusieri believed that it had been the original design of the architect to raise those figures to a greater elevation than that in which they were viewed, even before the accumulation of the soil. The Christians once made use of this Temple as a church; and their establishment has been succeeded by that of a College of Dervises, who here exhibit their peculiar dance.

We then went to the Bazar, and inspected the market. The shops are situate on the two sides of a street lying to the north of the Acropolis, which is close and parallel to the wall and columns of a magnificent building of the Corin-

thian order. The entablature, capitals, and parts of the shafts of these columns, may be viewed from the street; but the market is, for the most part, covered by trellis-work and vines. So little is known concerning the history of this building, that it were vain to attempt giving an account of it. It is by some called the Temple of Jupiter Olympius. It is highly probable that the bazar is situate upon an ancient market, from the circumstance of the inscription containing a decree of the Emperor Hadrian relating to the sale of oil, which was found upon the spot. And if this be true, the Corinthian edifice, called the Temple of Jupiter Olympius, may be either the old Forum, where the public assemblies of the people were held, which is the most probable conjecture as to its origin, or the remains of the Temple of Vulcan, or of Venus Urania. The measures for dry goods in the bazar are fashioned in the ancient style, and of the materials formerly used, being made of white marble; but their capacity has been adapted to modern customs. The population of Athens amounts to fifteen thousand, including women and children. The principal exports are honey and oil: of the latter they send away about five vessels freighted annually. Small craft, from different parts of the Archipelago, occasionally visit the Piræus and the neighbouring coast, for wood. The shops maintain an insignificant traffic in furs and cloth. The best blue cloth in Athens was of bad German manu-

facture, selling under the name of English. Indeed, in almost all the towns of Europe, when any thing is offered for sale of better manufacture than usual, it is either English, or said to be English, in order to enhance its price.

The silversmiths were occupied in making coarse rings for the Abanian women; and the poor remains of Grecian painters in fabricating, rather than delineating, pictures of saints and virgins. Their mode of doing this may serve to shew how exactly the image of any set of features, or the subject of any representation, may be preserved unaltered, among different artists, for many ages. The prototype or pattern is always kept by them, and transmitted with great care from father to son (for in Greece, as in China, the professions are often hereditary, and remain in the same family for a number of generations :) it consists of a piece of paper, upon which the outline and all the different parts of the design, even to the minutest circumstance, have been marked by a number of small holes pricked with the point of a pin or a needle. This pattern is laid on any surface prepared for painting, and rubbed over with finely powdered charcoal; the dust falling through the holes, leaves a dotted outline for the painter, who then proceeds to apply the colours much after the same manner, by a series of other papers having the places cut out where any particular colour is to be applied, which clearly shows that our now common operation of stencil-

ling walls in imitation of figured paper is to be referred to the Greeks for its origin. Very little skill is requisite in the finishing; for, in fact, one of these manufacturers might with just as much ease give a rule to make a picture, as a tailor to cut out a suit of clothes: the only essential requisite is a good set of patterns, and these are handed from father to son. Hence we learn the cause of that remarkable stiffness and angular outline which characterize all the pictures in the Greek churches. The silver shrine is supposed to serve as a mere case to enclose the sacred picture, leaving only the small apertures before mentioned for their bogs or gods to peep through: but as the part beneath the silver superficies is not seen, they spare themselves the trouble of painting any thing except the face and hands of the image; so that if the covering by any accident fall off, the bare wood is disclosed, instead of the rest of the picture. But to return to the art of painting among the ancient Greeks. If we except the pictures found in Herculaneum, Pompeii, and Stabia, and a few faint vestiges upon marble statues, we may despair of seeing any thing so perfect as the specimens, which are preserved upon terra cotta; whether upon facings intended for architecture, or upon vases found in Grecian sepulchres. It is evident that these pictures are purely Grecian, because Greek inscriptions so often accompany them; but it seems equally evident that the Greeks were indebted for

the art to the Etruscans. The art of making earthenware was transported from Etruria into Greece. The Romans also borrowed this invention from the Etruscans, to whom Greece was indebted for many of its ceremonies and religious institutions, and for its mechanics and artificers. According to Heraclides Ponticus, the inhabitants of Etruria were distinguished in all the arts and sciences; and before the foundation of Rome, the art of painting had attained a high degree of perfection in that country; for Pliny mentions pictures at Ardea which were older than the birth of Romulus. This alone is sufficient to show, that in the eighth century before the Cristian æra, and above a hundred years before the age of Solon, consequently before the arts obtained any footing in Greece, the same people who taught the Greeks the art of making earthenware, were also well acquainted with the art of painting. In addition, it may be urged, that the cities of Nola and Capua were founded and built by the Etruscans; and it is remarkable that the vases of Nola are peculiar for elegance of design and excellence of workmanship.

Among the few articles of Athenian cutlery to be met with in the market, we found some small knives and forks, with white bone handles, inscribed with mottoes in modern Greek, characteristic of the manners and sentiments of the people. The artists employed for the British Ambassador, were under the necessity of sending

to Smyrna to obtain a common wheeled cart for moving the marbles to the Piræus, and for all the materials and implements wanted in preparing cases to contain them. No ladders could be found, nor any instrument proper for making them. It was not possible to procure the most ordinary domestic utensils.

Specimens of ancient art are less rare. A goldsmith sold to us some beautiful gold medals, of Alexander and of Philip, for double their weight in Venetian sequins. He had several gems of great beauty in his possession, but estimated them at an enormous price.

Proceeding through the inhabited part of the city, towards the north-west, a little beyond the Corinthian structure to which we have alluded, we came to an extensive ruin encumbered with modern buildings, which is considered as the gymnasium of Ptolemy. Its vicinity to the Temple of Theseus renders this highly probable; but concealed as it is by dwellings, and greatly dilapidated, we cannot even attempt to supply what able architects and inquisitive travellers have not felt themselves authorized, from the state of the ruin, to communicate.

As we passed through the town there was hardly a house that had not some little marble fragment of ancient sculpture stuck in its front, over the door; and since most of the houses have courtyards, where the objects within are concealed from the observation of passengers in the streets,

many valuable antiquities will doubtless be brought to light as Athens becomes more visited. The few articles which we collected during our residence here, may be considered as indications of future acquisitions of the same nature.

We accompanied Signor Lusieri to the The-seum; and having obtained admission to the interior of the temple, paid a melancholy visit to the grave of that accomplished scholar, whose name we had found inscribed upon the Pillars of Sunium, the exemplary and lamented Tweddell—an English gentleman of learning and celebrity, who travelled over Europe between the years 1795 and 1799 in the investigation of the relics of antiquity, and who died at Athens in the year 1799. This gentleman's death may be considered a serious loss to mankind: he enjoyed the means of investigating the antiquities of Greece in a higher degree than any traveller of modern times. It was simply a small oblong heap of earth, like those over the common graves in all our English church-yards, without stone or inscription of any kind. The body, too, had been carelessly interred: we were told that it did not lie more than three or four feet beneath the surface. The part of the Temple where it has been buried, is now converted into a Greek church, dedicated to St. George; but as it is left open during particular times of the year, and is always liable to be entered by foraging animals, who creep into such retreats, the zeal and humanity

of English travellers have however provided this ill-fated gentleman with a suitable monument.

This beautiful doric temple, the Theseus, is the most entire of any of the remaining structures of ancient Greece; and were it not for the damage which the sculptures have sustained, might be considered as still perfect. The entire edifice is of marble: it stands east and west, the principal front facing the east. Some of the sculpture represents the labours of Hercules. The action of the atmosphere in this fine climate upon the marble, has diffused over the whole edifice, as over all the buildings in the Acropolis, a warm yellowish tint, which is peculiar to the ruins of Athens: and bears no resemblance to that black and dingy hue which is acquired by all works in stone and marble when they have been exposed to the open air in the more northern countries of Europe, and especially in England.

CHAPTER XXIV.

An ancient Equestrian Statue of great beauty, by Praxiteles.—The Pnyx, or Place of Parliament of the ancient Athenians.—Singular Alterations of its Arrangement by a tyrannical Government.—Reflections on these Circumstances.—Monument of Philopappus.—Theatre and Cave of Bacchus.—The elegant and remarkable Monument of Thrasyllus.—The Pillars of the Emperor Hadrian.

LEAVING the temple of Theseus, we again visited the Areopagus ; and we detached from the rock some specimens of this remarkable eminence. From the Areopagus we proceeded to a little chapel, situate upon the spot where the ancient Piræean gate of the city formerly stood : near to this, as an ancient writer relates, there was a tomb with an equestrian statue by Praxiteles. The place where the gate was situate may still be discerned. We then ascended towards the north of the Piræean gate, where may still be seen, in a state of the most admirable preservation, the ground-plot and entire form of the Pnyx, or ancient place of Parliament of the Athenians, as it was appropriated by Solon to the assemblies of the citizens. This structure is not likely to be much affected by the lapse of entire centuries :

almost the whole of it, even to the pulpitum for the orators, which yet remains, is an excavation of the rock; and the several parts of it were carved in stone, of one solid mass, with the exception only of the semi-circular area, the farthest part of which from the pulpitum consists of masonry. To approach the spot once dignified by the presence of the greatest Grecian orators; to set our feet where they stood; and actually, to behold the place where the orator Demosthenes addressed "the men of Athens," calling to mind the most memorable examples of his eloquence; is a gratification of an exalted nature. But the feelings excited in viewing the Pnyx, peculiarly affect the hearts of Englishmen: that holy fire, so much dreaded by the Athenian tyrants, and which this place had such a remarkable tendency to agitate, burns yet in Britain: it is the very soul of her liberties; and it strengthens the security of her laws; giving eloquence to her senate, heroism to her arms, extension to her commerce, and freedom to her people: although annihilated in almost every country of the earth, it lives in England; and its extinction there, like the going out of the sacred flame in the temple of Delphi, would be felt as a general calamity. The circumstances connected with the history of the Pnyx, prove how difficult a thing it was to subdue the love of freedom among the ancient Grecians. The Athenian tyrants vainly imagined that it originated solely in the position of the

stone pulpit, whence the orators harangued the people; forgetting that it is a natural principle implanted by Providence in the human heart. Under the notion they had thus conceived, they altered the plan of the Pnyx: the pulpit had been fronted towards the sea; they fronted it towards the land; believing that a people diverted from allusions to maritime affairs towards those of agricultural labour, would be more easy under an oligarchical dominion. The project was not attended with the consequences that were expected; the same spirit yet prevailed: but this place was still considered as its source; and at last, finding that alterations of the structure availed nothing towards its dissolution, the meetings in the Pnyx were entirely abolished. The place itself has, however, been suffered to remain unaltered to the present day.

From this illustrious memorial of Athenian history, we ascended to the monument of Philopappus, standing upon its summit. It is within the walls of the ancient, although at some distance from those of the modern city; and the view from hence of the citadel of Athens, and the neighbouring territories, is very striking. Looking towards the sea, the eye commands the ports of the Piræus, Munychia, and Phalerus; the isles of Salamis and Ægina; and the mountains of Peloponnesus, as far as the gulf of Argos. It is supposed, from the inscriptions upon it, that it was erected in the beginning of the second

century. It originally consisted of three compartments between four Corinthian pilasters; that is to say, of an arched recess, containing a central sitting figure, and having a square niche on each side of it. Below these appeared three superb sculptures in relief; that in the centre, beneath the sitting statue, exhibits Trajan in a car drawn by four horses, as he is represented on many monuments of the triumphs of that emperor; and his figure here corresponds with the image of him which is preserved upon the arch of Beneventum in Italy. On either side, in square compartments, were seen the attendants preceding and following the triumphal car.

Descending from the Museum, we observed some remains of the ancient walls of the city upon its southern side, and of the entrance from Phalerum. The vestiges of these walls also appear extending towards the monument of Philopappus, which they inclosed: thence they declined towards the Piræean gate, in a line of direction almost due north and south. Afterwards, crossing the plain, we visited the theatre and cave of Bacchus. Nothing exists now of the theatre, excepting the space for the seats, as in the earliest ages of dramatic representation it was universally formed, by scooping the sloping side of a rock. But how majestic, and how perfect in its preservation, rises the monument of Thrasyllus above this theatre! and how sublime

the whole groupe of objects with which it was associated at the time of our visit, and before the work of dilapidation had commenced—the ancient sun-dial; the statue of the god; the pillars for the tripods; the majestic citadel! The last of these has indeed defied the desolating ravages of Barbaric power; but who shall again behold the other objects in this affecting scene as they then appeared? or in what distant country, and obscure retreat, may we look for their mutilated fragments?

On the following day we set out to visit those prodigious columns, which, owing to their magnitude and situation, are almost every where in view, bearing traditionally the name of Hadrian's Pillars. In our way thither, we passed beneath an arch which conducted from the old city of Theseus to the New Athens, built by Hadrian; upon which the several appellations of Porta, the Arch of Hadrian, Arch of Theseus, and Arch of Ægeus, have been bestowed. The stones are put together without cement; but the work is adorned with a row of Corinthian pilasters and columns, with bases supporting an upper tier in the same style of architecture, thereby denoting a mode of building more characteristic of the age of Hadrian than of any earlier period in Athenian history. In endeavouring to trace its origin, and to ascertain its antiquity, the first view of it seems to suggest as the most probable

opinion concerning this structure; that it was a triumphal arch, erected in honour of Hadrian, upon his coming to Athens.

A new Athens had arisen under the auspices of this emperor. Magnificent temples, stately shrines, unsullied altars, awaited the benedictions of the sacerdotal monarch; and the Athenians, naturally prone to adulation, did not neglect to bestow it upon a benefactor so well disposed for its reception. The triumphal arch was prepared; and lasting characters, thereon inscribed, have proclaimed to succeeding ages, that "The Athens of Hadrian had eclipsed the city of Theseus."

We now advanced towards the stupendous pillars which also bear the name of that emperor; and a much more difficult task would remain if we should undertake to develope the circumstances of their history. According to the routine of objects, as they were observed by Pausanias, on this side of the city, the hundred and twenty pillars of Phrygian marble, erected by Hadrian, were in this situation; that is to say, south-eastward of the Acropolis. Sixteen columns of white marble, each six feet in diameter, and nearly sixty feet in height, now remain standing; all of the Corinthian order, beautifully fluted, and of the most exquisite workmanship. But, by the appearance of the plane upon which the columns stand, travellers have been induced to believe that there were originally six rows of pillars, and twenty in each row, which would complete

the number mentioned by the ancient writer. The recent observations upon these stupendous and precious remains seem to place the history of the building beyond a doubt, and prove it to have been the temple of Jupiter Olympius, constructed with double rows of columns, ten in front, and twenty-one in flank, amounting in all to one hundred and twenty-four; the extent of the front being one hundred and seventy-one feet, and the length of the flank more than four hundred: of which sumptuous and stately temple, these pillars are the majestic ruin. The area, within which it stood, was four stadia in circumference. "Rome (says a learned traveller), afforded no example of this species of building. It was one of the four marble edifices which had raised to the pinnacle of renown the architects who planned them; men, it is said, admired in the assembly of the gods for their wisdom and excellence." Some of the columns still support their architraves; one of which, being measured while we were in Athens, was found to equal three feet in width; and, although of one entire piece of marble, it extended, in length, twenty-two feet six inches. Upon the top of the entablature, on the western side of the principal group, is shewn the dwelling of a hermit, who fixed his solitary abode upon this eminence, and dedicated his life entirely to the contemplation of the sublime objects by which his mansion was every where surrounded. Seventeen of these pillars were standing in 1676; one

was afterwards thrown down, for the purpose of building a new mosque in the market-place. Such instances of dilapidation on the part of the Turks are, fortunately, very rare; and we find that, in this instance, the damage done to the remains of the temple was made a pretext for extorting fifteen purses from the Governor of Athens; a tax levied by the Pasha, as expressly stated, for the violence committed by the Wai-vode, in overthrowing the pillar.

CHAPTER XXV.

Visit to the River Ilissus.—A famous Fountain of Antiquity.—The noble Stadium, or Theatre for Gymnastic Exhibitions.—The Sepulchre of Herodes.—Extraordinary Panoramic Prospect from Mount Anthesmus.—Description of the various Objects.—Excavation of ancient Tombs and Wells, in search of curious Remains of Antiquity.—Description of the Articles obtained.

DESCENDING from the area of the temple towards the river Ilissus, we visited the fountain Callirrhoe, sometimes called Enneacrunus.

From the bed of the Ilissus, after visiting that part of it where the marble bridge of three arches crossed, mentioned by all writers, we ascended to view the remains of the Stadium Panathenaicum, which was, in fact, a continuation of the bridge; for the latter was seventy feet wide, and conducted immediately into the arena of the former. It has been usual to say of this most wonderful of all the marvellous works of Herodes Atticus, that nothing now remains of its former magnificence. To our eyes, every thing necessary to impress the mind with an accurate idea of the object itself, and of its grandeur, and of the prodigious nature of the work, seemed to exist, as if it had been in its perfect state. The marble

covering of the seats, it is true, no longer appears; but the lines are visible of the different ranges, and perhaps a part of the covering itself might be brought to light by a removal of the soil. The absence of ornament is of little consequence as to the general effect: the decorations of the structure, however costly in their nature, may be easily imagined; and if, instead of having ransacked the quarries of Pentelicus for its garniture, some more precious material had been used, the superficial investment in so vast a theatre would not materially have altered its general appearance. The remains of similar buildings still exist in different parts of Greece; but this of Athens surpasses, as in the days of its splendour, every other in the world. Its form is so perfect, that the spectator, traversing the arena between its sloping sides, toward the south-eastern extremity, almost imagines himself to be transported to the age in which it was prepared for the reception of its innumerable guests; and when seated in the higher part of it, where people from all Attica, ranged by thousands, beheld a still gathering multitude, thronging eagerly toward the spot, every countenance, animated by the greatness of the solemnity, and every heart beating with the most impatient expectation; how affecting is the scene before him! Nothing is wanted to render it more impressive, but the actual presence of the pomp itself; the noise of the chariots, the prancing and the neighing of the horses, the

sounds of the music, the exhibition of the combatants, and the shouts of the people. Even the passages, through which ferocious animals were conducted into the arena, and the entrances and retreats for those who contested prizes, yet remain almost in their entire state. Nothing has been removed or destroyed but the parts which were merely ornamental, and these are not missed in the general survey of a structure necessarily simple as to its form, and inexpressibly great and striking in its aspect: and this effect is owing, not solely to its artificial character, but to the grandeur of its appearance as a work of nature; the very mountains having contributed to the operations of art in its formation. Such a combination may be often observed in ancient theatres of a semicircular form; but there is not any instance, where the natural lineaments of the country have admitted of a similar adaptation to the appropriate shape of the Grecian building. This splendid memorial of Attic splendour, and of the renown of a private citizen of Athens, became ultimately his funeral monument; and a very curious discovery may be reserved for future travellers in the majestic sepulchre of Herodes himself, who was here interred, with the highest obsequies and most distinguished honours that a grateful people could possibly bestow upon the tomb of a benefactor, who spared not expence for them while he was living, and every individual of whom participated in his bounty at his death. A little

eastward of the Stadium, are the vestiges of the temple of Diana. Having again crossed the Ilissus, we observed, near to its northern bank, some remains, which travellers have considered as those of the Lyceum. Hence we proceeded toward the east, to ascend Mount Anchesmus, and to enjoy in one panoramic survey the glorious prospect, presented from its summit, of all the antiquities and natural beauties in the Athenian plain. At the foot of this mount were the remains of a reservoir, constructed by Adrian for the purpose of receiving water for his new city, after being conveyed by a most expensive aqueduct, whose broken piers may be traced to the distance of seven miles from the spot, in a north-easterly direction. The prospect embraces every object, excepting only those upon the south-west side of the castle. Instead of describing the effect produced in our minds by such a sight, I shall state, the situation of the observer is north-east of the city, and the reader may suppose him to be looking, in a contrary direction, towards the Acropolis, which is the centre of this fine picture; thence, regarding the whole circuit of the citadel, from its north-west side, toward the south and east, the different parts of it occur in the following order, although to a spectator they all appear to be comprehended in one view:

Central object—The lofty rocks of the Acropolis, crowned with its majestic temples, the Parthenon, Erectheum, &c.

Foreground—The whole of the modern city of Athens, with its gardens, ruins, mosques, and walls, spreading into the plain beneath the citadel. A procession for an Albanian wedding, with music, &c. was at this time passing out of one of the gates.

Right or north-western wing—The temple of Theseus.

Left or south-eastern wing—The temple of Jupiter Olympius.

View beyond the citadel, proceeding from west, to south and east—1. Areopagus. 2. Pnyx. 3. Ilissus. 4. Site of the temple of Ceres in Agræ, and Fountain Callirrhoe. 5. Stadium Panathenaicum, site of the Lyceum, &c.

Parallel circuit, with a more extended radius—1. Hills and defile of Daphne, or Via Sacra. 2. Piræus. 3. Munychia and Phalerum. 4. Salamis. 5. Ægina. 6. More distant isles. 7. Hymettus.

Ditto, still more extended—1. Parnes. 2. Mountains beyond Eleusis and Megara. 3. Acropolis of Corinth. 4. Mountains of Peloponnesus. 5. The Ægean and distant islands.

Immediately beneath the eye—1. Plain of Athens, with Albanians engaged in agriculture; herds of cattle, &c. &c.

We remained on this enchanting spot during the greater part of the day; and having now examined all the principal antiquities in the immediate vicinity of Athens, we returned by the gate leading to Anchesmus, where the in-

scribed marble, relating to Hadrian's reservoir for water at the foot of the mount is now placed. After entering the city, we resolved to try our success by making an excavation, not only in one of the tombs, but also in the exhausted wells, of which there are many in the neighbourhood of Athens.

Having hired some Albanian peasants for the work, and obtained permission from the Waivode, we began the examination of some of the wells, intending afterwards to excavate a tumulus: but the difficulty of carrying on any undertaking of this kind, owing to the jealousy, not only of the Turks, but also of the Greeks, who always suppose that some secret horde of gold is the object of research, renders it liable to continual interruption. The wells of Greece were always the resort of its inhabitants; they were places of conversation, of music, dancing, revelling, and almost every kind of public festivity: secondly, that their remote antiquity is evident from the following extraordinary circumstance: over the mouth of each well has been placed a massive marble cylinder, nearly corresponding as to its form, ornaments, height, and diameter, with the marble altars, which are so commonly converted by the Turks into mortars for bruising their corn. These wells had no contrivance for raising water by means of a windlass, or even of the simple lever, common over all the north of Europe, which is often poised by a weight at the outer

extremity. The water rose so near to the surface, that it was almost within reach of the hand: and the mode of raising it was by a hand-bucket, with a rope of twisted herbs. Owing to the general use of this rope, and its consequent friction against the sides of the well, the interior of those massive marble cylinders has been actually grooved all round, to the depth of two or three inches: in some instances transverse channels appear crossing the others obliquely and to an equal depth. An effect so remarkable, caused in solid marble by its attrition with one of the softest substances, affords a convincing proof that a great length of time must have elapsed before any one of these furrows in the stone could have been so produced; and that many ages would be requisite to form such channels in any number.

The number of terra-cotta vessels, lamps, pitchers, bottles, some entire, others broken, was very great. We removed several in an entire state, of various sizes and forms. They were chiefly of a coarse manufacture, without glazing or ornament of any kind; but the workmen brought up also the feet, handles, necks, and other parts of earthen vases of a very superior quality and workmanship: some of these were fluted, and of a jet black colour; others of a bright red, similar to those innumerable fragments of terra-cotta found upon the site of all Grecian cities.

CHAP. XXVI.

Visit to Mount Hymettus.—Temple of Diana.—Monastery of Saliani.—Temple of Venus, and Fountain said to be conducive to Pregnancy.—Glorious Prospect from the Summit of Mount Hymettus.—Grandeur of the View of Corinth from the Parthenon of Athens.

WE next set out upon an excursion to Mount Hymettus, intending to visit the summit of the mountain. Having taken with us horses, a guide, and provisions for the day, we left Athens for this purpose at sun-rise. In our way we crossed the Ilissus; and again passing the Stadium, we visited a small Greek chapel toward the east, upon the top of a hill. This building was alluded to in the preceding chapter, as marking the site of the temple of Diana. We saw here the remains of columns of three distinct orders in architecture; the most ancient Doric, the Ionic, and the Corinthian.

Hence we proceeded to the monastery of Saliani, upon Mount Hymettus. Learned travellers have believed this to have been anciently renowned as the scene where the jealous Procris met her fate from the unerring dart of Diana, which she had given to her husband Cephalus. A temple of Venus stood upon the spot; and near

it there was a fountain whose water was believed to conduce to pregnancy, and to facilitate parturition. The modern superstition with regard to the fountain, which is close to the convent, appear to have confirmed these opinions: the priests state, that "a dove is seen to fly from heaven, to drink of the water annually, at the feast of Pentecost." It is remarkable that superstition should thus have selected the bird which was peculiarly sacred to Venus; and it is also added that the Greek women still repair to the monastery at particular seasons.

From this monastery it is practicable to ride the whole way to the summit of Hymettus; but we preferred walking, that we might the more leisurely examine every object, and collect the few plants in flower at this late season of the year. We saw partridges, in great abundance; and bees, in all parts of the mountain; not only at the monastery, where a regular apiary is kept, but also in such number, dispersed and feeding about the higher parts of Hymettus, that the primeval breed may still exist among the numerous wild stocks which inhabit the hollow trees and clefts of the rocks. Their favourite food, the wild thyme, in almost every variety, grows abundantly upon the mountain, and to this circumstance may be owing the very heating quality of the honey of Hymettus. The powerful aromatic exhalation of these plants fills the air with a spicy odour; indeed, this scented atmosphere is a very striking

characteristic of Greece and of its islands, but it peculiarly distinguishes the mountains of Attica. The ascent was truly delightful; the different prospects varying in extent and magnificence, as we pursued a devious track among the rocks, in our way upward to the top of the mountain. We reached the summit about twelve o'clock: there was no wind, and the sky was without a cloud. From the spot where we were seated, a tremendous chasm of Hymettus, awfully grand, extended, in one wide amazing sweep, from the summit to the base of the mountain. Into this precipitous ravine there projected from its sides the most enormous crags and perpendicular rocks. These were the fore-ground of this sublime picture; the eye looking down into an abyss, which at the bottom opened into a glorious valley, reaching across the whole promontory of Attica, from sea to sea. Beyond, appeared the broad and purple surface of the *Ægean*, studded with innumerable islands, and shining with streaks of the most effulgent light.

We now remained in the citadel during an entire day; that we might once more leisurely survey the interesting objects it contains; and, lastly have an opportunity of seeing, from the Parthenon, the sun setting behind the Acropolis of Corinth; one of the finest sights in all Greece.

The sun was now setting, and we repaired to the Parthenon. This building, in its entire state,

either as a Heathen temple, or as a Christian sanctuary, was lighted only by means of lamps: it had no windows; but the darkness of the interior was calculated to aid the Pagan ceremonies by, one of the most powerful agents of superstition. The priests at Jerusalem have profited by a similar mode of construction, for their pretended miracle of the "holy fire," at the tomb of the Messiah; and the remains of many ancient crypts and buildings in Egypt and in Greece, seem to prove that the earliest places of idolatrous worship were all calculated to obstruct rather than to admit the light. Even in its present dilapidated state, the Parthenon still retains something of its original gloomy character: it is this which gives such a striking effect to the appearance of the distant scenery, as it is beheld through the portal by a spectator from within, who approaches the western entrance. The Acropolis of Corinth is so conspicuous from within the nave, that the portal of the temple seems to have been contrived for the express purpose of guiding the eye of the spectator precisely to that point of view. Perhaps there was another temple, with a corresponding scope of observation, within the Corinthian citadel. Something of this nature may be observed in the construction of old Roman Catholic churches, where there are crevices calculated for the purpose of guiding the eye, through the darkness of the night, towards other

sanctuaries remotely situate; whether for any purpose of religious intercourse, by means of lights conveying signs to distant priests of the celebration of particular solemnities, or as beacons for national signals, it is not pretended to determine. As evening drew on, the lengthening shadows began to blend all the lesser tints, and to give breadth and a bolder outline to the vast objects in the glorious prospect seen from this building, so as to exhibit them in distinct masses; the surface of the Sinus Saronicus, completely land-locked, resembled that of a shining lake, surrounded by mountains of majestic form, and illustrious in the most affecting recollections. There is not one of those mountains but may be described, in the language of our classic bard, as “breathing inspiration.” Every portion of territory, comprehended in the general survey has been rendered remarkable as the scene of some conspicuous event in Grecian story; either as the land of genius, or the field of heroism; as honoured by the poet’s cradle, or by the patriot’s grave; as exciting the remembrance of all by which human nature has been adorned and dignified, or as proclaiming the awful mandate which ordains that not only talents and virtue, but also states and empires, and even the earth itself, shall pass away. The declining sun, casting its last rays upon the distant summits of Peloponnesus, and tinging with parting glory the

mountains of Argolis and Achaia, gave a grand but mournful solemnity both to the natural and the moral prospect. It soon disappeared. Emblematical of the intellectual darkness now covering those once enlightened regions, night came on, shrouding every feature of the landscape with her dusky veil.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Departure from Athens, for the Peloponnesus.—First View of the Acropolis, or Citadel of Corinth.—Remains of a Temple of Jupiter.—Ignorance of Greek Pilots.—Greek Medals.—Interesting and Pastoral Character of the surrounding Country.—Specimens of the Albanian Peasantry, and their Mode of Life.

WE now left Athens at sun-rise, for the Piræus. The Governor of Athens had previously commissioned a confidential Turk to accompany us in the capacity of Tchohadar: this person travelled with us as an officer who was to provide for us upon all occasions, and to be responsible for our safety among the Albanians.

As we sailed from the Piræus, we soon perceived the Acropolis of Corinth, and, behind it, high mountains, which were much covered by clouds, although the day was remarkably fine. We lost some time in the harbour, and were afterwards detained by calms. A mountain of very great elevation was now visible behind the lofty rocks of the Corinthian citadel, and at a great distance. About five P. M. we were close in with Ægina; and as we drew near to the island, we had a fine view of the magnificent remains of the temple of Jupiter Panhellenius, its numerous Doric columns standing in a most conspicuous

situation upon the mountain of Panhellenius, high above the north-eastern shore of the island, and rising among trees, as if surrounded by woods. This is the most ancient and the most remarkable ruin of all the temples of Greece: the inhabitants of Ægina, in a very remote age, maintained that it was built by Æacus.

As we drew near to Peloponnesus, the mountains of Argolis began to appear in great grandeur. We passed along the northern shore of an island, called by our mariners Anchestri: it was covered with trees. The pilots and sailors are very ignorant even of the navigation of their own coasts. As soon as fogs or darkness begin to obscure the land, the Greek pilots remain in total ignorance of their situation: generally, losing their presence of mind, they either run their ships ashore, or abandon the helm altogether, and have recourse to the picture of some Saint, supplicating his miraculous interference for their safety. It more than once happened to us, to have the responsibility of guiding the vessel, without mariner's compass, chart, or the slightest knowledge of naval affairs. It may be supposed that under such circumstances an infant would have been found equally fit for the undertaking. This was much the case on the present occasion: we were close in with a lee-shore: fortunately, the weather was almost calm; and our interpreter, who was by much the best seaman of a bad crew, had stationed himself in the prow of the caique, and continued sounding as we drew nigh to the land.

Presently, being close in with the shore, we discerned the mouth of a small cave; into which, by lowering our sails and taking to the oars, we brought the vessel; and, heaving out the anchor, determined to wait here until the next morning.

When day-light appeared, we found ourselves in a wild and desert place, without sign of habitation, or any trace of a living being: high above us were rocks, and among these flourished many luxuriant evergreens. We did not remain to make farther examination of this part of the coast; but got the anchor up, and standing out to sea, bore away toward the south-west. We had not a drop of fresh water on board, but drank wine as a substitute, and ate some cold meat for our breakfast, the worst beverage and the worst food a traveller can use, who wishes, in this climate, to prepare himself for the fatigue he must encounter. Our pilot being also refreshed with the juice of the grape, affected once more to recognise every point of land, and desired to know what port we wished to enter. Being told that we were looking out for the harbour of Epidaurus, he promised to take the vessel safely in. It was at this time broad day-light, and we thought we might venture under his guidance; accordingly, we were conducted into a small port nearly opposite to Anchestri. Here we landed at ten o'clock, A. M. and sent the Tchohadar to a small town, which the pilot said was near to the port, to order horses. We were surprised in finding but few ruins near

the shore; nor was there any appearance to confirm what he said of its being Pidauro; we saw, indeed, the remains of an old wall, and a marsh filled with reeds and stagnant water, seeming to indicate the former existence of a small inner harbour for boats, that had fallen to decay. The air of this place was evidently unwholesome, and we were impatient to leave the spot. When the Tchohadar returned with the horses, he began to cudgel the pilot; having discovered that Pidauro was farther to the southwest. It is laid down in some Italian maps under the name of Piada. The pilot now confessed that he had never heard of such a port as Pidauro in his life. As it would have been a vain undertaking to navigate any longer under such auspices, we came to the resolution of dismissing our caique altogether.

The road from the port to the town of Epiada extends through olive plantations and vineyards. The town itself is situate upon a lofty ridge of rocks, and was formerly protected by an old castle, still remaining. In consequence of our enquiry after ancient medals, several Venetian coins were offered to us; and the number of them found here may serve to explain the origin of the castle, which was probably built by the Venetians. The Greek silver medals, as it is well known, are often covered with a dark surface, in some instances quite black, resembling black varnish.

Our journey from Epiada, towards the interior

of Epidauria led us over mountains, and through the most delightful valleys imaginable. In those valleys we found the *Arbutus* *Andrachne*, with some other species of the same genus flourishing in the greatest exuberance, covered with flowers and fruit. The fruit, in every thing but flavour and smell, resembled large hautbois strawberries. We passed an ancient edifice: it was near to a windmill in a valley towards the right of our road, and at some distance from us. Nothing could exceed the grandeur of the scenery during the rest of our ride to Ligurio. On every side of us we beheld mountains, reaching to the clouds; although we rode continually through delicious valleys, covered by cultivated fields, or filled with myrtles, flowering shrubs, and trees. Every fertile spot, seemed to be secluded from all the rest of the world, and to be protected from storms by the lofty summits with which it was surrounded. A white dress, worn by the peasants, reminded us of the garments often seen upon ancient statues; and it gave to these delightful retreats a costume of the greatest simplicity, with the most striking effect. Our guide had spoken in rapturous terms of the country they had beheld in Arcadia; but the fields, and the groves, and the mountains, and the vales of Argolis, surpassed all that we had imagined, even from his description of the finest parts of the Peloponnesus. To render the effect of the landscape still more impressive, shepherds, upon distant hills, began to play, as it

were an evening service, upon their reed-pipes, seeming to realize the ages of poetic fiction; and filling the mind with dreams of innocence, which, if it dwell any where on earth, may perhaps be found in these retreats, apart from the haunts of the disturber, whose dwelling is in cities and courts, amidst wealth, and ambition, and power. All that seems to be dreaded in these pastoral retreats are the casual and rare visits of the Turkish Lords. We passed the night at what is called a conak, or inn; but, in reality, a wretched hovel, where horses, asses, and cattle of every description, lodge with a traveller beneath the same roof, and almost upon the same floor. A raised platform about twelve inches high, forming a low stage, at one extremity of the building, is the part appropriated to the guests; cattle occupying the other part, which is generally the more spacious of the two. Want of sleep makes a traveller little fastidious as to where he lies down: and fatigue and hunger soon annihilate all those sickly sensibilities which beset men during a life of indolence and repletion. We have passed many a comfortable hour in such places; and when, instead of the conak, we were invited to the cleanly accommodation offered beneath the still humbler shed of an Albanian peasant, the night was spent in thankfulness and luxury.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Arrival at Coroni.—Singular Race of Dogs.—Greek Game.—Immense ancient Theatre of Polycletus. Journey to Argos.—Beauty and Fertility of the Country.—A Public Rejoicing.—Scene of Greek Wrestling.—The Pyrrhic, or War-dance of the ancient Greeks.

PROCEEDING southward from Ligurio, we soon arrived at a small village called Coroni, whose inhabitants were shepherds. Here we noticed a noble race of dogs, similar to the breed found in the province of Abruzzo in Italy; and it is somewhat singular, that the very spot which still bears an appellation derived from the name of the mother of Æsculapius, should be now remarkable for the particular kind of animal materially connected with his history. It was a shepherd's dog who guarded the infant god, when exposed upon Mount Titthion. We saw a young one, of great size and beauty. It resembled a wolf, with shining black hair.

At Coroni, turning towards the east, we had the first sight of the Hieron. Its general disposition may have been anticipated by the reader, in the description already given of the features of Epidauria. It is a small and beautiful valley,

surrounded by high mountains; one of superior magnitude bounding the prospect on its eastern side. This, from its double summit, consisting of two rounded eminences, may be the mammillary mountain, thence called Titthion, by ancient writers.

We then went, by an ancient road, to the top of a hill towards the east; and found upon the summit the remains of a temple, with steps leading to it yet remaining: there is reason to believe this to have been the temple of the Coryphæan Diana, upon Mount Cynortium, from the circumstance of an inscription which we discovered upon the spot. It is imperfect; but it mentions a priest of Diana, of the name of Apotatilius, who had commemorated his safety from some disorder.

Below this mountain, by the northern side of a water-course, now dry, and rather above the spot where it discharged itself into the valley, is a small building of a circular form, covered by a dome, with arches round the top.

Hence we repaired to the theatre, now upon our left hand, or southern side. We found it tenanted by a variety of animals, which were disturbed at our approach: hares, red-legged partridges, and tortoises. The coilon of this theatre, as usual, has been scooped in the side of a mountain; but it faces the north. As the sea could not enter into the perspective, which seems to have been a general aim of the architects by whom such structures were planned, through-

out Greece, this position of the theatre may have been designed to afford it as much shade as its situation was capable of receiving. Its northern aspect, and the mountain towering behind it, must have protected the whole edifice, during a great portion of the day, from the beams of the sun; which will be understood to be a considerable advantage, when we recollect that the Greeks were frequently obliged to carry umbrellas with them into their theatres, submitting to their incumbrance, rather than remain exposed to the sun's rays. The women, upon such occasions, were also attended by their umbrella-bearers; and this custom, from the increase it occasioned in the throng, added to the embarrassment caused among the audience by the number of umbrellas intercepting the view of the stage, must have rendered a shaded theatre a very desirable acquisition. Indeed we know that upon some occasions temporary sheds and large awnings were erected for the convenience of the spectators.

We returned by the way of Coroni; and near to Ligurio took a western course in the road leading towards Nauplia, the ancient port of Argos. After journeying for about an hour, through a country resembling many parts of the Apennines, we saw a village near the road, with a ruined castle upon a hill, to the right, where the remains of Lessa are situate.

During this part of our journey, the more

distant mountains of the Morea appeared extremely lofty, elevating their naked summits with uncommon sublimity. The road led through a mountain pass that had been strongly fortified. We saw every where proofs of the fertility of the soil; in the more open valleys, plantations of pomegranate and mulberry-trees; and even amidst the most rocky situations, there sprouted myrtles, beautiful heaths, and flowering shrubs, among which sheep and goats were browsing in great number. We met several herds upon the road, each herd containing from seven to nine hundred head of cattle. As we drew near to the sea-side, we passed a very extensive plantation of olive-trees; and came to an ancient paved road, leading from Nauplia towards Argos, the once renowned capital.

We had an opportunity of witnessing a public rejoicing, which consisted of an irregular discharge of small artillery, most wretchedly managed, and the exhibition of athletic sports before the Governor's windows; followed afterwards by a few bad fireworks, displayed without any effect, by daylight. The athletic sports were principally wrestling matches. We saw two of the combatants advance into the arena where the combat was to take place: they came hand in hand, capering and laughing, as if highly gratified by the opportunity of shewing their skill: presently they put themselves in various attitudes, and began to make faces at each other. They

wore tight leather breeches, well soaked in oil: in other respects their bodies were stark naked, except being anointed with oil, and rubbed over with dust. To gain the victory, it was necessary not only that one of the combatants should throw the other, but that, having thrown him, he should be able to keep his adversary lying upon his back until he, the conqueror, regained his feet; for in the struggle they always fell together. We had also the satisfaction of seeing that most ancient military exercise, the Pyrrhic dance, as it had perhaps existed in Greece from the time of its introduction by the son of Achilles. In fact, it was a Spartan dance, and therefore peculiarly appropriate at a neighbouring Nauplian festival. It consisted of men armed with sabres and shields, who came forward in a kind of broadsword exercise, exhibiting a variety of martial evolutions, to the sound of Turkish flutes. Such amusements and customs are never likely to be discontinued in any country, so long as any portion of the original inhabitants remains: indeed, they often continue to exist when a new race has succeeded to the old inhabitants; being adopted by their successors.

CHAPTER XXIX.

*Arrival at Argos—Population—State of the Town.
—Public Schools.—Antiquities.—Priestcraft.—
Curious Discovery of a pretended Oracle.—Ex-
tensive and beautiful Plains of Argos.—Mycenæ.
The supposed Tomb of Agamemnon.—Immense
Scale of its Masonry.*

THE population of Nauplia consisted of about two thousand persons, at the time of our arrival. The plague frequently rages, during several successive years, and carries off thousands of its inhabitants. When free from this scourge, it is a very unhealthy place, the people being attacked annually with a malaria fever. The few merchants who reside here have generally country-houses, and leave the town in the summer months. The only remedy is the red Peruvian bark; but it must be administered in very powerful doses. A traveller of Greece should consider this medicine as absolutely necessary to his existence, and never journey unprovided.

We employed the first day of our arrival at Argos, in examining the town and its ruins. Argos is a large straggling place, full of cottages, with few good houses. The roofs here are not flat, as in almost all parts of the east, but slope like those of northern nations. The same style

of building may be observed in Athens, and in other parts of Greece. The present population consists of six thousand, including females and children. There is a school kept by a Greek priest. Being desirous to know what the children were taught, we visited the master, who seemed pleased by our enquiries, as if he had bestowed pains upon his scholars. He said they were instructed in writing, arithmetic, astronomy, physic, and rhetoric. The houses in Argos are built with a degree of regularity, and fitted up with some comforts uncommon in this part of the world, although in other respects they are wretched hovels. They are all ranged in right lines, or in parallel lines; and each house, consisting of a single story, has an oven; so that here even the Albanians do not bake their unleavened cakes upon the hearth, as it is usual elsewhere in their cottages.

The antiquities of Argos, once so numerous, may be now comprised within a very short list.

After visiting the remains of a theatre, we found, at the foot of the hill of the Acropolis, one of the most curious remains yet discovered among the vestiges of Pagan priestcraft: it was nothing less than one of the oracular shrines of Argos, alluded to by ancient historians, laid open to inspection, like the toy which a child has broken to see the contrivance by which its music is produced. A more interesting sight for modern curiosity can hardly be conceived to exist among

the ruins of any Grecian city. In its original state it had been a temple; the farther part from the entrance, where the altar was, being an excavation of the rock, and the front and roof constructed with baked tiles. The altar yet remains, and part of the superstructure: but the most remarkable part of the whole is a secret subterraneous passage, terminating behind the altar; its entrance being at a considerable distance towards the right of a person facing the altar; and so cunningly contrived as to have a small aperture, easily concealed, and level with the surface of the rock. This was barely large enough to admit the entrance of a single person; who having descended into the narrow passage, might creep along until he arrived immediately behind the centre of the altar; where, being hid by some colossal statue, or other screen, the sound of his voice would produce a most imposing effect among the humble votaries prostrate beneath, who were listening in silence upon the floor of the sanctuary. We amused ourselves for a few minutes, by endeavouring to mimic the sort of solemn farce acted upon these occasions; and, as we delivered a mock oracle, from the cavernous throne of the latter, a reverberation, caused by the sides of the rock, afforded a tolerable specimen of the oracles, as they were formerly delivered to the credulous votaries of this now forgotten shrine. There were not fewer than twenty-five of these juggling places in

Peloponnesus, and as many in the single province Bœotia: and surely it will never again become a question among learned men, whether the answers in them were given by the inspiration of evil spirits, or whether they proceeded from the imposture of priests.

We now took leave of the hospitable Argos, and set out for Mycenæ, the city of Agamemnon, anticipating a treat among those ruins. We entered the spacious plains of Argos, level as the still surface of a calm sea, and extending in one rich field, with the most fertile soil, from the mouths of the Inachus towards the north. Having again crossed a dry channel, and looking back towards the Larissean citadel, the lofty conical hill of the Acropolis appeared rising in the midst of this plain, as if purposely contrived to afford a bulwark for dominion, and for the possession of this valuable land; which, like a vast garden is walled in by mountains. Such was the inviting aspect exhibited by this territory to the earliest settlers in this country. No labour was necessary, as amidst the forests and unbroken soil of the north of Europe and of America. The colonists, upon their arrival, found an open field, with a rich impalpable soil, already prepared by Providence to yield an abundant harvest to the first adventurer who should scatter seed upon its surface. We cannot therefore wonder, that within a district not containing more square miles than the most considerable of our English

parishes, there should have been established in the earliest periods of its history four capital cities, Argos, Mycenæ, Tiryns, and Nauplia, each contending with the other for superiority.

On our arrival at Mycenæ, we repaired to the entrance of the supposed tomb of Agamemnon, upon its eastern side. Some steps, whereof the traces are visible, originally conducted to the door. This entrance, built with all the colossal grandeur of Cyclopean architecture, is covered by a mass of stone of such prodigious size, that were it not for the testimony of others who have since visited the tomb, an author, in simply stating its dimensions, might be supposed to exceed the truth. The door itself is not more than ten feet wide; and it is shaped like the windows and doors of the Egyptian and earliest Grecian buildings, wider at the bottom than at the top, forming a passage six yards long, covered by two stones. The slab, now particularly alluded to, is the innermost entablature, lying across the uprights of the portal, extending many feet into the walls of the tomb on either side. This vast lintel is best seen by a person standing within the tomb, who is looking back towards the entrance: it consists of a coarse grained breccia, finished almost to a polish; and the same siliceous aggregate may be observed in the mountains near Mycenæ as at Athens. We carefully measured this mass, and found it to equal twenty-seven feet in length, seventeen feet in width, and four feet seven

inches in thickness. There are other stones also of immense size within the tomb; but this is the most considerable, and perhaps it may be mentioned as the largest slab of hewn stone in the world.

Having passed the entrance, and being arrived within the interior of the tomb, we were much struck by the grandeur of its internal appearance. Here we found that what appears externally to be nothing more than a high conical mound of earth, contains within it a circular chamber of stone, regularly built, and terminating above in a conical dome, corresponding with the exterior shape of the tumulus. Its form has been aptly compared to that of an English bee-hive. The interior superficies of the stone was once lined either with metal or with marble plates, fastened on by bronze nails, many of which now remain as they were originally driven into the sides. We had scarcely entered beneath the dome, before we observed, upon the right hand, another portal, leading from the principal chamber of the tomb to an interior apartment of a square form and smaller dimensions. The door-way to this had the same sort of triangular aperture above it that we had noticed over the main entrance to the sepulchre: and as it was nearly closed to the top with earth, we stepped into the triangular cavity above the lintel, that we might look down into the area of this inner chamber; but here it was too dark to discern any thing. Being afraid to venture into a place of unknown depth, we

collected and kindled a faggot of dry bushes, and, throwing this in a blaze to the bottom, we saw that we might easily leap down and examine the whole cavity. The diameter of the circular chamber is sixteen yards; but the dimensions of the square apartment do not exceed nine yards by seven.

After leaving this sepulchre, the Cyclopean walls of Mycenæ, extending to a short distance in a parallel projection from the entrance to the citadel, pointed out to us the approach to the gate on this side, which is built like Stonehenge, with two uprights of stone, and a transverse entablature of the same massive construction. Above this is a triangular repository, similar to those already described within the tomb; but, instead of being empty, as in the former instances, it is entirely filled by an enormous alto-relievo, upon a stone block of a triangular form, exhibiting two lions, or rather panthers, standing like the supporters of a modern coat of arms. The other antiquities of Mycenæ must remain for the more attentive examination of future travellers, who, as it is hoped, will visit the ruins, provided with the necessary implements for making researches, where, with the slightest precaution, they will be little liable to interruption on the part of the Turks, the place being as destitute of inhabitants, and almost as little known or regarded, as it was in the time of Strabo, an ancient historian, when it was believed that not a vestige of Mycenæ could be found.

CHAPTER XXX.

Albanians.—Their habits and modes of living.—Nemeæan River.—Arrival at Sicyon.—High state of preservation of its Theatre.—Its extensive Prospects.—Corinth.—Extraordinary Fertility of the neighbouring Country.—Arrival at Corinth.—Ancient Grecian method of plating Marble Edifices with Metal.—Climate of Corinth.

SOME of our party made an excursion to the ruins of the temple of the Nemeæan Jupiter, which form a striking object as the plain opens. Three beautiful columns of the Doric order, without bases, two supporting an entablature, and a third at a small distance sustaining its capital only, are all that remain of this once magnificent edifice; but they stand in the midst of huge blocks of marble, lying in all positions, the fragments of other columns, and the sumptuous materials of the building, detached from its walls and foundations. The mountain Iretus makes a conspicuous figure, as seen from this temple towards the south-east. A poor village, consisting of three or four huts, somewhat farther in the plain to the north of this mountain, and north-east of the temple, now occupies the situation of the ancient village of Nemea. It bears the name of Colonna; probably bestowed upon it in conse-

quence of these ruins. One of its inhabitants, coming from those huts, joined our company at the temple. He told us that there were formerly ninety columns, all standing at this place; and the other inhabitants of this little village persisted in the same story. The columns now remaining, and the broken shafts of many others lying near to them are grooved: they measure four feet ten inches in diameter. The stones of the foundation of the temple are of very great size. We observed a wild pear-tree, mentioned by a traveller near sixty years before, still growing among the stones on one side of the ruin. Having no comfortable means of accommodation for the night, we accompanied the peasant, who had joined us to the village, where the Tchohadar had already arrived, and engaged one of the huts for our reception, and we had here a specimen of Albanian living and manners. The poor Albanians, to whom this little habitation belonged, had swept the hearth floor and kindled a fire upon it, the smoke escaping through a hole in the roof; one end of the hut being occupied by their cattle and poultry, and the other by the family and their guests. Having killed and boiled a large fowl, we made broth for all the party, sitting in a circle round the fire. Afterwards, imitating the example offered to us by our host and his family, we placed our feet towards the embers, and stretched ourselves upon the floor of the cottage until the morning. We perceived

during the night, that the women, instead of sleeping, were always tending the fire, bringing fresh fuel when it was wanted, and spreading out the embers so as to warm the feet of the men, who were lying around the hearth. When these peasants had taken a short nap, they sat up, and began talking. The conversation turned upon the oppressions of their Turkish masters. The owner of the hut told us that each male is compelled to pay a tax of seventy piastres; that for himself, having three sons, they demanded of him an annual payment of two hundred and eighty piastres, besides other contributions; that he toiled incessantly with his children to gain enough to satisfy their demands, but found himself unable after all his endeavours. Having said this, the poor man shed tears, asking us if the time would ever arrive when Greece might be delivered from the Moslem tyranny; and adding, "If we had but a leader, we should flock together by thousands, and soon put an end to Turkish dominion." Towards morning, the braying of their donkies set them all in motion. Having asked the cause of this stir, they told us that the day was going to break; and upon further enquiry, we learned that the braying of an ass was considered a better indication of the approaching dawn than the crowing of a cock. In the present instance they were certainly not deceived, for we had no sooner boiled our coffee than daylight appeared.

The following morning we began our journey

towards Sicyon, now called Basilico, following the course of the Nemeæan rivulet. After riding about two hours along the Nemeæan rivulet, we suddenly quitted its course upon our right, and beheld Sicyon occupying an elevated situation upon some whitish cliffs. Here we noticed a tomb and ruins upon our right hand, and immediately descended into the great fertile plain which extends between Sicyon and Corinth. . Soon after entering into this plain we observed, upon our right hand, a chapel, containing Ionic capitals and other marble fragments. Hence we continued our journey upon a level and highly fertile soil, cultivated like a garden. After crossing a river we observed on several places upon our left, the ruins of ancient buildings. We then came to the site of the city of Sicyon.

So little is known concerning this ancient seat of Grecian power, that it is not possible to ascertain in what period it dwindled from its high pre-eminence, to become, as it now is, one of the most wretched villages of the Peloponesus. The remains of its former magnificence are still considerable; and, in some instances, they exist in such a state of preservation, that it is evident the buildings of the city either survived the earthquakes said to have overwhelmed them, or they must have been constructed in some later period. In this number is the theatre, by much the finest and most perfect structure of the kind in all Greece.

The whole city occupied an elevated situation; but, as it did not possess one of those precipitous rocks for its citadel, which sustained the bulwarks of Athens, Argos, Corinth, and many other Grecian states, no vestige of its Acropolis can now be discerned, excepting only the traces of its walls.

The sea is at the distance of about a league from Basilico; but the commanding eminence upon which the ruins of an ancient palace are situate, affords a magnificent view of the Corinthian Gulf, and of all the opposite coast of Phocis. There is, however, no part of the ancient city where this prospect is more striking than from the theatre. The theatre of Sicyon may be considered as surpassing every other in Greece, in the harmony of its proportions, in the costliness of the workmanship, in the grandeur of the coilon, and in the stupendous nature of the prospect exhibited to all those who were seated upon its benches. If it were freed from the rubbish about it, and laid open to view, it would afford an astonishing idea of the magnificence of a city, whose luxuries were so great that its inhabitants ranked among the most voluptuous and effeminate people of all Greece. The stone-work is entirely of that massive kind which denotes a very high degree of antiquity. Part of the scene remains, together with the whole of the seats, although some of the latter now lie concealed by the soil. But the most remarkable parts of the structure are two vaulted passages

for places of entrance, one being on either side, at the two extremities of the colon close to the scene, and about half way up, leading into what we should call the side boxes of a modern theatre. Immediately in front the eye roams over all the Gulf of Corinth, commanding islands, promontories, and distant summits towering above the clouds. To a person seated in the middle of the area, a lofty mountain of bold sweeping sides appears beyond the gulf, placed exactly in the centre of the view, the sea intervening between its base and the Sicyonian coast. To a person who is placed upon the seats which are upon the right hand of those in front, Parnassus most nobly displays itself. This mountain is only visible in very clear weather. During the short time we remained in the theatre, it became covered with vast clouds, which at first rolled majestically over its summit, and afterwards concealed it from our view.

We then set out for Corinth. As we descended from the Acropolis, we plainly perceived the situation of the gate to have been in the fosse, above the place where the fountain now is. Here we noticed the remains of the old paved way; and saw upon our right, close to the road, that the rock had been evidently hewn into a square pedestal, for the base of some colossal statue, or public monument. Thence we continued our route across the wide and beautiful plain which extends between Sicyon and Corinth, bounded

by the sea towards the north; a journey of three hours and a half, over the finest corn land in Greece, and through olive plantations, producing the sweetest oil in the world. This district has been justly extolled by ancient and by modern authors. The well-known answer of an ancient oracle to a person who enquired the way to become wealthy, will prove how famous the soil has ever been for its fertility: he was told to "get possession of all the land between Corinth and Sicyon." Indeed, a knowledge of the country is all that is necessary to explain the early importance of the cities for which it was renowned. Both Sicyon and Corinth owed their origin to this natural garden: and such is even now its value, under all the disadvantageous circumstances of Turkish government and neglected cultivation, that the failure of its annual produce would cause a famine to be felt over all the surrounding districts.

Within a mile of Corinth we passed a fountain in a cavern upon our right, formed by a dropping rock, consisting of a soft sand-stone.

The old city occupied an elevated level above the rich plain we had now passed. Upon the edge of this natural terrace, where it begins to fall towards the corn-land, we found the fluted shaft of a Doric pillar of lime-stone, equal in its dimensions to any of the columns of the temple of Jupiter Olympius at Athens: it was six feet and one inch in diameter.

In passing this towards the magnificent remains of a temple now standing above the Bazar, whence perhaps this pillar may have been removed, we found the ruins of ancient buildings; particularly of one partly hewn in the rock opposite to the said temple. The outside of this exhibits the marks of cramps for sustaining slabs of marble once used in covering the walls; a manner of building, perhaps, not of earlier date than the time of the Romans. The Greeks sometimes decorated marble edifices after the same manner, but with plates of metal.

The air of Corinth is so bad, that its inhabitants abandon the place during the summer months. They are subject to the Malaria fever, and pretend to remove it by all those superstitious practices which are common in every country where medical science is little known. There were no inscriptions; nor was there to be seen a single fragment of ancient sculpture. Such is now the condition of this celebrated seat of ancient art—this renowned city, once so vain of its high reputation, and of the rank it held among the states of Greece.

CHAP. XXXI.

The Isthmus of Corinth.—The ancient Canal of the Emperor Nero.—Stupendous Rock of the Acrocorinthus.—Delightful Prospect from its Summit.—Her Majesty engages a Vessel to coast the Islands.—Cromyon.—Peasantry of the Country—Resemble the Highlanders of Scotland in their Habits and Manners.—Eleusis.—Exquisite Prospect of Athens at Sunset.—Second Arrival at Athens.—Remarkable Grove of Olive-trees.—Description of the Olive-wood.—Stupendous Statue of Ceres—Negociation with the Authorities respecting its Purchase—Difficulties of Removal—Methods devised to effect it.—Superstitious Fears of the Inhabitants.—Remarkable Prediction respecting the Statue of the Goddess—Fulfilled in an astonishing manner.

IN going through an examination of the Isthmus of Corinth, we found what interested us much, the unfinished canal began by the Emperor Nero, exactly as the workmen had left it, in a wide and deep channel, extending NW. and SE. and reaching from the sea to the NE. of the town of Lechæum, about half a mile across the Isthmus. It terminates on the SE. side, where the solid rock opposed an insurmountable obstacle to the work; and here the undertaking was abandoned.

The stupendous rock of the Acrocorinthus,

from whatever part of the Isthmus it is viewed, appears boldly towering and conspicuous; opposing so bold a precipice, and such a commanding eminence high above every approach to the Peninsula, that, if properly fortified, it would render all access to the Morea, by land, impracticable; and, as a fortress, it might be rendered not less secure than that of Gibraltar.

We were desirous to witness the prospect of the setting sun from this eminence: we accordingly, on a beautiful evening, reached this gate just before sun-set; and had, as is always usual from the tops of any of the Grecian mountains, a more glorious prospect than can be seen in any other part of Europe, formerly travellers having called it "the most agreeable prospect this world can give." As from the Parthenon, at Athens, we had seen the citadel of Corinth, so now we had a commanding view across the Sinus Saronicus, of Salamis, and of the Athenian Acropolis. Looking down upon the Isthmus, the shadow of the Acrocorinthus, of a conical shape, extended exactly half across its length, the point of the cone being central between the two seas. Towards the north we saw Parnassus, covered with snow, and Helicon, and Cithæron. Nearer to the eye appeared the mountain Gerania, between Megara and Corinth.

During our stay in the Isthmus, we witnessed a fair in Corinth. We saw nothing worth notice, except an Arcadian pipe, upon which a shepherd

was playing in the streets. It was perfectly Pandæan; consisting simply of a goat's horn, with five holes for the fingers, and a small aperture at the end for the mouth. It is exceedingly difficult to produce any sound whatever from this small instrument; but the shepherd made the air resound with its shrill notes: and we bought his pipe. This day we left Corinth entirely. Her Majesty engaged a small vessel to take us along the coast, in which we embarked and proceeded the next morning, at sun-rise; but the wind proving contrary, we landed, and reached a miserable hamlet, consisting only of six houses. Its wretched inhabitants, a set of sickly looking people, in the midst of very bad air, had never seen a glove, and expressed the utmost astonishment at seeing a person take one off his hand. Notwithstanding the insalubrity of the situation, and the unhealthy looks of the people, there was no appearance of poverty or misery within their cottages. The houses, like those of the Albanians, in general, were very neat, although the cattle lodged with their owners beneath the same roof. The resemblance which the Albanians bear to the Highlanders in Scotland, in their dress, habits, and mode of life, is said to be very striking in a land which is more peculiarly their own, and where their employments are less agricultural than in the Morea; but even here we could not avoid being struck with appearance, forcibly calling to mind the manners and customs we had

often witnessed among Caledonian heaths and mountains. The floors were all of earth; and, instead of chimneys, there was, in every cottage, a hole through the roof; but the walls were neatly white-washed, and the hard earthen-floors were swept, and made as clean as possible. Every house had its oven, which was kept remarkably clean; and the whitest bread was set before us, with the richest and most highly-flavoured honey. The fire being kindled in the middle of the floor, the peasants form a circle around it, sitting or lying with their feet towards the hearth. Their conversation is cheerful and animated; and, as it was interpreted to us, it seemed to be filled with as lively sallies of wit against the faults of their governors, as it is usual to hear among nations boasting of the freedom they enjoy.

The wind continuing still contrary, we hired asses, and determined to proceed by land; arriving at length upon the site of the city of Eleusis, we found the plain to be covered with its ruins. The first thing we noticed was an aqueduct, part of which is entire. Six complete arches are yet to be seen. It conducted towards the Acropolis, by the temple of Ceres. The remains of this temple are more conspicuous than those of any other structure, excepting the Aqueduct. The paved road which led to it is also visible, and the pavement of the temple yet remains. But to heighten the interest with which we regarded the relics of the Eleusinian temple, and to fulfil

the expectations we had formed, the fragment of a statue, mentioned by many authors as that of Ceres herself, appeared in Colossal Majesty among the mouldering vestiges of her once splendid sanctuary.

We now began our journey from Megara towards Eleusis and Athens, filled with curiosity to examine the vestiges of the Eleusinian Temple, and over a tract of land where every footstep excites the most affecting recollections. By every ancient well, and upon every tomb at which the traveller is induced to halt, and to view the noble objects by which he is surrounded, a crowd of interesting events rush into his mind; and so completely fill it, that even fatigue and fever, from which he is seldom free, are, for a moment, forgotten. As we left Megara, we had a magnificent view of the Saronic Gulf, and of the Island Salamis, the scene of the great naval engagement, where three hundred and eighty sail of the Grecian fleet defeated the vast armament of Xerxes, amounting to two thousand ships. The distance between Megara and Eleusis, according to the Itinerary, is thirteen miles.

Approaching Athens now on our return, after passing a deep defile, and as the hills opened at the other extremity towards sun-set, such a prospect of Athens, and of the Athenian plain, with all the surrounding scenery, burst upon our view, as never has been, nor can be described. It is presented from the mouth, or gap, facing the

city, which divides Corydallus upon the south, now called Laurel Mountain, from Ægaleon, a projecting part of Mount Parnes upon the north, immediately before descending into the extensive olive-plantations, which cover all this side of the plain, upon the banks of the Cephissus. There is no spot whence Athens may be seen that can compare with this point of view; and if, after visiting the city, any one should leave it without coming to this eminence to enjoy the prospect here afforded, he will have formed a very inadequate conception of ~~its~~ grandeur; for all that nature and art, by every marvellous combination of vast and splendid objects, can possibly exhibit, aided by the most surprising effect of colour, light, and shade, is here presented to the spectator. The wretched representations made of the scenes in Greece, even by the best designs yet published in books of travels, have often been a subject of regret among those who have witnessed its extraordinary beauties; and, in the list of them, perhaps few may be considered as inferior to the numerous delineations which have appeared of this extraordinary city. But with such a spectacle before his eyes as this now alluded to, how deeply does the traveller deplore, that the impression is not only transitory as far as his own enjoyment, but that it is utterly incapable of being transmitted to the minds of others. With such reflections, we reluctantly quitted the spot: and passing downwards to the plain, crossed the

Cephissus, and entered the olive-groves extending towards our left, over the sight of the Academy. There are not less than forty thousand of these trees; the largest and finest of the kind we had seen in Greece. The most beautiful wood perhaps ever seen in England is that of the Athenian olive, when polished. A table made of this wood is in the possession of the Earl of Egremont. The air here is very unwholesome during the summer months, owing to the humidity of the soil, and perhaps principally to its not being properly drained. In the evening, we arrived once more in Athens.

It is impossible to quit the subject of the statue of the goddess Ceres, without relating, in the words of an accomplished traveller, the extraordinary undertaking of removing that interesting piece of ancient sculpture to the British shores. The difficulties of this, arising partly from the superstitious fears of the inhabitants, and partly from the absence of all mechanical assistance, were unusually great; nor was the ultimate fate of this inestimable work of ancient art (in close fulfilment of the prediction of the people, who so strenuously resisted its removal, and so heavily deplored it as a calamity) the least remarkable circumstance.

"The next morning (says the gentleman), our Tchohadar waited upon his relation the Waiwode, and communicated to him the subject of our wishes respecting the Eleusinian marble.

To complete the whole, it was now necessary to apply to the consul himself, for the use of the ferry-boat plying between Salamis and the main land; as the only means of conveying this enormous piece of marble to the Piræus, if we should be so fortunate as to succeed in our endeavours of moving it from its place towards the shore. Such an application, as it might be expected, exciting the consul's curiosity to the highest degree: but after many questions, as to the object for which the boat was required, we succeeded in lulling his suspicions; or, if he had any notion of our intention, he believed that all attempts to remove the statue would be made in vain. A messenger was accordingly despatched to put the boat under our orders. Every thing being now ready, we set out again for Eleusis: and perhaps a further narrative of the means used by private individuals, unaided by diplomatic power or patronage, to procure for the University, of which they are members, this interesting monument of the Arts and Mythology of Greece, although a part of it has been already before the public, may not be deemed an unwelcome addition to this volume.

The difficulties to be encountered were not trivial: we carried with us from Athens but few implements: a rope of twisted herbs, and some large nails, were all that the city afforded, as likely to aid the operation. Neither a wheeled carriage, nor blocks, nor pulleys, nor even a saw,

could be procured. Fortunately, we found at Eleusis, several long poles, an axe, and a small saw about six inches in length, such as cutlers sometimes adapt to the handle of a pocket knife. With these we began the work. The stoutest of the poles were cut, and pieces were nailed in a triangular form, having transverse beams at the vertex and base. Weak as our machine was, it acquired considerable strength by the weight of the statue, when placed upon the transverse beams. With the remainder of the poles were made rollers, over which the triangular frame might move. The rope was then fastened to each extremity of the transverse beams. This simple contrivance succeeded, when perhaps more complicate machinery might have failed; and a mass of marble, weighing near two tons, was moved over the brow of the hill, or Acropolis of Eleusis, and from thence to the sea, in about nine hours.

An hundred peasants were collected from the village and neighbourhood of Eleusis, and near fifty boys. The peasants were ranged, forty on each side, to work at the ropes; some being employed, with levers, to raise the machine, when rocks or large stones opposed its progress. The boys, who were not strong enough to work at the ropes and levers, were engaged in taking up the rollers as fast as the machine left them, and in placing them again in the front.

But the superstition of the inhabitants of Eleu-

sis, respecting an idol which they all regarded as the protectress of their fields, was not the least obstacle to be overcome. In the evening, soon after our arrival with the firman, an accident happened which had nearly put an end to the undertaking. While the inhabitants were conversing with the Tchohadar, as to the means of its removal, an ox, loosed from its yoke, came and placed itself before the statue; and, after butting with its horns some time against the marble, ran off with considerable speed, bellowing, into the plain of Eleusis. Instantly, a general murmur prevailed; and several women joining in the clamour, it was with difficulty any proposal could be made. "They had been always," they said, "famous for their corn; and the fertility of the land would cease when the statue was removed." It was late at night before these scruples were removed. On the following morning, the boat arrived from Salamis, attended by four monks, who rendered us all the service in their power; but they seemed perfectly panic struck when we told them that it was our intention to send the statue in their vessel to the Piræus; and betrayed the helplessness of infants when persuaded to join in the labour. The people had assembled, and stood around the statue; but no one among them ventured to begin the work. They believed that the arm of any person would fall off who would dare to touch the marble, or to disturb its position.

Upon festival days they had been accustomed to place before it a burning lamp. Presently, however, the priest of Eleusis, partly induced by intreaty, and partly terrified by the menaces of the Tchohadar, put on his canonical vestments, as for a ceremony of high mass, and, descending into the hollow where the statue remained upright, after the rubbish around it had been taken away, gave the first blow with a pick-axe for the removal of the soil, that the people might be convinced no calamity would befall the labourers. The work then went on briskly enough: already the immense mass of marble began to incline from its perpendicular; and the triangular frame was placed in such a situation, that, as the statue fell, it came gradually upon the transverse beams. The rope was then cut, and fastened as traces; one half of it upon either side; and our machine, supported by wooden rollers, was easily made to move. In this manner, at mid-day, it had reached the brow of the hill above the old port; whence the descent towards the shore, although among ruins, and obstructed by large stones, was more easy.

New difficulties now occurred. It was found that the water near to the shore was too shallow to admit the approach of the boat from Salamis; for the conveyance of the statue on board; and the old quay of Eleusis, which consisted of immense blocks of marble stretching out into deeper water, was in such a ruined state, that several

wide chasms appeared, through which the water flowed. Across these chasms it would be necessary to construct temporary bridges, for which timber would be required; and even then the boat could not be brought close enough to the extremity of the quay to receive the statue. Here the whole of our project seemed likely to meet with its termination; for it was quite impossible, without any mechanical aid, to raise a mass of marble weighing nearly two tons, so as to convey it into the boat. At this critical moment, when we were preparing to abandon the undertaking, a large Casiot vessel made her appearance, sailing between Salamis and the Eleusinian coast. We instantly pushed off in the boat and hailed her; and the captain consenting to come on shore, we not only hired his ship to take the statue to Smyrna, but also engaged the assistance of his crew, with their boats and rigging, to assist in its removal. These men worked with spirit and skill; and made the rest of the operation a mere amusement. At sunset we saw the statue stationed at the very utmost extremity of the pier head.

Early on the following day, two boats belonging to the vessel, and the Salamis ferry-boat, were placed alongside of each other, between the ship and the pier; and planks were laid across, so as to form a kind of stage, upon which the Casiot sailors might work the blocks and ropes. A small cable was also wound round the statue; and

twelve blocks being brought to act all at once upon it, the goddess was raised almost to the yard-arm; whence, after remaining suspended a short time, she was lowered into the hold; and the Eleusinians taking leave of her, the vessel sailed for Smyrna. It should now be stated that the Athenians, in the workings of their despair at the removal of their statue, distinctly predicted the wreck of the ship which should convey it; and it is certainly a most extraordinary circumstance, that their augury was completely fulfilled, in the loss of the vessel which had the statue on board, when it came in sight of the British shores off Beachy Head."

CHAPTER XXXII.

Visit the Seraglio of the Bey of Corinth.—Embark on an Excursion to the Island of Antiparos.—Curious and splendid Natural Grotto.—Encounter a violent Storm.—Sagacity and Nautical Skill of Greek Navigators.—Isle of Naxos.—Embark for Constantinople.—Arrival at Constantinople.

HER Majesty, before her final departure from Greece, was desirous of observing the different modes of treatment, if any, in the seraglios of the Turks, and therefore requested permission to visit that of the Bey of Corinth. Here, however, the situation of those unfortunate creatures differed in no material point from that of the inmates of similar establishments of these most singular people.

Her Majesty now determined on an excursion among the numerous islands of the Grecian Archipelago, in order to visit and inspect any natural curiosities, or interesting remains of antiquity which they may contain. Among the extraordinary and beautiful productions of nature, probably nothing in that part of the globe can exceed the exquisite beauties of the natural grotto of Antiparos, so called from the island of that name, about forty leagues from Athens.

After a short and pleasant trip we landed upon the barren island of Antiparos, and were conducted by the governor to a small village. Here we found a few inhabitants, who were described to us as the casual legacies of different vessels, and principally Maltees, taken by corsairs, and left on shore to shift for themselves. Some of them provided us with mules, ropes, and candles for the grotto, which is situate near the summit of the highest mountain of Antiparos, in the south part of the island. As we rode along, our beasts were terrified by the attacks of the gad-fly, an insect which infests every one of these islands. Having reached the top of the mountain before mentioned, we came to the mouth of this most prodigious cavern, which may be described as the greatest natural curiosity of its kind in the known world. The entrance to it exhibits nothing very remarkable; but no book of travels ever did or ever can pourtray the beauties of the interior. The mode of descent is by ropes, which, on the different declivities, are either held by the natives, or they are joined to a cable which is fastened at the entrance around a stalactite pillar. In this manner we were conducted, first down one declivity, and then down another, until we entered the spacious chambers of this truly enchanted grotto. The roof, the floor, the sides of a whole series of magnificent caverns, are entirely invested with a dazzling incrustation, as white as snow. Columns, some of which were

five-and-twenty feet in length, pended in fine icicle forms above our heads. Fortunately, some of them are so far above the reach of the numerous travellers who, during many ages, have visited this place, that no one has been able to injure or remove them. Others extend from the roof to the floor, with diameters equal to that of the mast of a first-rate ship of the line. The incrustations of the floor, caused by falling drops from above, have grown up into vegetable forms. The last chamber into which we descended surprised us more by the grandeur of its exhibition than any other. Probably there are many other chambers below this, yet unexplored, for no attempt has been made to penetrate farther; and if this be true, the new caverns, when opened, would appear in perfect splendour, unsullied in any part of them by the smoke of torches, or by the hands of intruders.

On the evening of the sixth day, since our first arrival in the island, and perhaps being as well acquainted with it as if we had spent a year in its examination, we became impatient to leave it; and began to fancy, that as our caique was hired by the month, its owners would create as much delay as possible, and loiter in port when they might safely venture out. Accordingly, after midnight, having roused the captain, we told him that it was a fine night, and that we wished he would put to sea. This man was one of the most experienced pilots of the Archipelago,

and as worthy a Greek as ever navigated these seas; but we had not at that time learned to place the confidence in him which he so highly deserved. He was very poor; and, having become a widower in an early period of his life, had suffered his beard to grow, according to the manner of mourning in his native Isle of Casos, wearing at the same time a black turban. Without making any answer to our proposal, he continued, for the space of a minute, looking up attentively, with his eyes fixed towards the zenith. Presently he shook his head, and pointing upwards, with his arms extended, asked us how we liked the sky? As it seemed to be very clear, and there were many stars visible, we replied that there was every sign of fair weather. "Do you not see," said he, "some small clouds, which now and then make their appearance, and instantly afterwards vanish?" We confessed that we did; but rather hastily insisted, that instead of peering after signs in the sky, he should get the vessel out of harbour as speedily as possible. His only comment upon this order, so inconsiderately given, was a summons to his companions to heave the anchor, and hoist the sails. We had barely light enough to steer through the narrow channel at the entrance, without running against the rocks; and we had no sooner cleared the port than there fell a dead calm. A prodigious sea, tossing our vessel in all directions, soon convinced us of the nature of the situation for which we had exchanged

our snug birth but a few minutes before. Surrounded as we had been by the lofty cliffs of the island, we had not the most distant conception of the turbulent sea we should encounter. Our steady helmsmen endeavoured in vain to keep the prow of his vessel to any particular point; and calling to our interpreter, bade him notice what he termed, in Greek, "the belching of the deep." This happens during the roll of a calm, when a wave, lifted to a great height, suddenly subsides, with a deep and hollow sound, like air bursting through a narrow channel. Our apprehensions had already got the better of our indifference to such observations, and in a very different tone of voice from that in which we had ordered him out of port, we asked the captain what that noise denoted? He calmly replied, that it was generally considered as a bad omen; but that he more disliked the appearance which he had desired us to notice before we left the harbour. Being by this time heartily sick of our usurped authority, we begged that he would be guided in future by the dictates of his own experience; and further, requested that he would put back into port. This he affirmed to be impossible; that he would not venture towards a lee-shore, during the night, for any consideration. We prepared therefore to suffer as we had deserved, for our extreme folly and rashness; and, strange as it may seem, not without many an anxious thought for the ancient manuscripts we

had on board. The crew lighted a wax taper before a small picture of some saint in the fore-ship, all the after part of the hold being occupied by our cots and baggage. Here, when we endeavoured to lie down for rest, we were overrun by swarms of stinking cockroaches: we remained therefore sitting upon some planks that we had placed to serve as a floor, with our heads touching the roof which the deck afforded, sustaining the violent motion of the vessel, and anxiously expecting the coming of the morning.

For some time after leaving the port, we endeavoured, by hoisting canvass, to avail ourselves of the short gusts of land-wind that came from the east during the calm, a heavy and unsteady sea rolling. Afterwards, a light breeze prevailing from that quarter, we were enabled to stand over to Icaria, where we were entirely becalmed; and the usual alarm taking place, as to pirates upon the coast, we hauled off with our oars. Towards morning, a fresh wind sprung from the north-west, accompanied by flashes of lightning, and we directed the prow of our caique towards Naxos. As the sun rose, the sky bore a very angry aspect, the horizon being of the deepest crimson, interspersed with dark clouds. We soon perceived that the prediction made by the Casiot master of our vessel would be fulfilled, and that we should encounter a storm. The high land of Icaria, sheltered us until we got farther towards the south-west, when the

gale freshened, and came upon us with such violence, that we could not keep our course. All our endeavours to beat to windward, so as to weather the northern point of Naxos, and bear down the strait between that island and Paros, were ineffectual. We fell fast to leeward; and getting among some rocks upon the eastern side of Naxos, the foresail was carried away. The first notice that we received of this accident came with a wave, which broke over the caique, and almost filled our birth: it was fortunate that those upon deck were not washed overboard. We made our way up as well as we could, expecting every instant that something more serious would happen. The waves ran mountains high, and the caique would not answer to her helm. During the delay, caused by getting the foresail repaired, we shipped water continually; and, being obliged to take the gale in poop, such a sea followed us, that there was reason to fear, if the mainsail gave way, the vessel would founder. When matters were somewhat rectified, we steered for a narrow channel between some high rocks and the eastern side of the island; it seemed rather like flying than sailing: our little caique ran over the curling tops of the highest waves, without shipping any more water. This was remarked by our undaunted captain, stationed with his crew at the helm, who exclaimed, "Let us see one of your frigates in such a sea as this; there is not one of them could weather it like my little caique!"

We passed like lightning within a cable's length of some dreadful rocks, over which the sea was dashing as high as our mast head; until getting under the lee, to the south of Naxos, we ran the vessel aground, close to a small creek, upon some white sand. Within this creek another small bark had taken shelter, the crew of which, seeing our situation, came to assist our captain in getting his caique off the sand, and in hauling her farther up the creek, in which they happily succeeded.

We now remained in the island of Naxos till we had repaired the damages of the vessel, and recruited our party from the past fatigues. After three days thus spent, Her Majesty embarked for Athens again, thence to take proper shipping to pass to Constantinople. The moment our preparations for that voyage were completed, we sailed on the first of June, and on the third passed the isle of Tenedos. On the fourth we entered the Hellespont, and passed the Dardanelles. On the fifth our vessel passed Gallipoli, and on the seventh entered the port of Constantinople. Her Majesty immediately disembarked, under the usual salutes of honour from the forts and the vessel, and proceeded to the palace of the British ambassador, where she continued to reside for some time.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Arrival off the Isle of Tenedos.—Pass Gallipoli.—First View of Constantinople.—Extreme Grandeur and Imposing Effect of the Prospect.—Description of the Environ Butere.—Description of that Beautiful Retreat.—Turkish Pleasure-boats.—Extraordinary Procession of the Grand Signior.—Mosques of Constantinople.

ON the fourth day of our departure, we found ourselves, on rising, between the isle of Tenodos and the coast of Troas; and about seven o'clock in the morning we entered the channel with a fresh breeze. Early in the day we passed Gallipoli, and in the evening we were becalmed in the sea of Marmora.

The weather was fine, and the heat began to be felt; the wind was to the southward, but was so faint that we could make no progress on account of the contrary current. We remained the whole day to the north-west of the island of Marmora; but during the night the wind having blown with somewhat more strength, in the morning we enjoyed the first sight of Constantinople, and about ten o'clock we entered the harbour.

If Constantinople leaves scarcely any thing to be wished for as to the natural beauty of its situation and of its environs, the fertility and

variety of its territory, the extent, commodiousness, and safety of its harbour, it has also the advantage of enjoying a very mild temperature, a beautiful sky, and a very healthful climate; the heats of summer are there tempered by a cooling wind which blows regularly from the Black Sea during the day, and from the same wind the cold is never excessive.

It is difficult to express the various sensations which a traveller experiences at the sight of this interesting city and its singular inhabitants; its elevated position, the mixture of trees, houses, and minarets, the latter a sort of steeple in the form of a pillar, in which is made a staircase for ascending to a gallery, constructed towards the top, overlooking all the houses, and frequently more elevated than the mosque itself. It presents this singular mixture of objects in profusion, and with a beautiful effect. The entrance of the Bosphorus, the grandeur of the suburbs, and the verdant hills which lie behind; the Propontis, with its islands, farther on; Mount Olympus, covered with snow, and in every direction the variegated and fertile fields of Asia and Europe. This assemblage of natural beauty exhibits different pictures, which captivate and astonish.

The environs of Constantinople are, on the whole, truly beautiful.

When we enter the city of Constantinople, we pass rapidly from the first impression of asto-

nishment and admiration occasioned by the beauty of the prospects, and by the sight of so many different objects, to a second impression of surprise and distaste. We are disagreeably struck to find it so dirty and so ill built; the streets narrow and ill paved; the houses irregular, mean and constructed with earth and wood. We are surprised at the silence which reigns every where; at the haughty look and grave carriage of the Mussulman; at the humble, timid, and servile air of the Jew, the Armenian, and even of the Greek. This contrast is so striking, that the stranger can guess, from the carriage of the man, whether he be a Mussulman, or a tributary subject, as a Greek, Jew, or Armenian, without knowing the manner of distinguishing them by their peculiar manner of dressing their head or their feet.

Her Majesty was, on her arrival, immediately solicited to take up her residence at the palace of the British Ambassador, which was accepted, and where every possible attention was paid to Her Majesty's state and conveniences.

Our residence in the city however was after the first week seriously interrupted by the breaking out of the plague, which compelled His Excellency the ambassador to retire to his country palace at Buitere, a beautiful retreat about fifteen miles from the city, upon the Bosphorus. Hither Her Majesty and her suite therefore repaired. We set out soon after daybreak in His

Excellency's pleasure-boat, accompanied by a numerous suite of attendants, boats carrying bands of music, colours, &c. &c.

We arrived at an early hour at Buitere on a public holiday, and in the evening walked in the meadow to see the famous plane-tree, which had long since been mentioned to us. Seven or eight trees of an enormous size, adhering at their base, rise circularly, and leave in the middle a rather considerable space. A great number of Greeks and Armenians were seated on the turf, under the shade of these trees, and smoking their pipes; different groups of Turkish and Armenian women, veiled, and surrounded by their children, were seated apart: some Greek women, richly dressed, more or less handsome, fixed the looks and the attention of Europeans whom the crowd of people had attracted. Several Turks were in the enclosure of the plane-tree, smoking their pipes, and drinking coffee, which had just been prepared for them hard by.

Buitere, or the great valley, is a village situated in the broadest part of the channel, on a sort of gulf, about six miles from the Black Sea. The houses stand on the sea-shore, and occupy near a mile in extent: those belonging to most of the ambassadors, are built in the European taste, and are remarkable for their elegance, and the beauty of the gardens. As this village is scarcely occupied except by Europeans, Greeks, and Armenians, it would be an exceeding agree-

able place of residence, if the ambassadors would bring themselves to lay aside the ceremony, etiquette, and preferences which accompany them every where.

The Armenian women here, as every where else, lived retired, and do not appear in the streets unveiled; the Greek women live with as little constraint as in the capital, and contribute to render the monotony of society more supportable.

The mode of conveyance from Constantinople to Buitère, is by the Bosphorus, in Turkish pleasure-boats or caiques, of a singular construction. The distance is about fifteen miles, and is performed, notwithstanding a contrary wind and current in about three hours. The palaces of Buitère, or any of its elevated sites, command a very beautiful prospect of the arrival and departure of large boats and ships passing to and fro under full sail, and the continual movements of numberless caiques, generally manned by three or four rowers, incessantly crossing the harbour in every direction, and proceeding with great celerity to the different villages of the Bosphorus.

The caïque is a long narrow boat, of an extremely light construction, equipped with one, two, or three pair of oars. They also carry one or two, and even three sails, which are set only in fine weather, or when the wind is not very strong. They are not provided with ballast, and are so buoyant that a trifling breeze of wind would

overset them, without the most timid caution on the part of the helmsmen. The number of these vessels is so considerable, and they divide the water with such velocity, that, notwithstanding the skill of the rowers, they frequently run foul of each other, and one or both of them is overset. In such case swimming affords the only chance for escape from perishing; assistance can seldom be offered from the extreme risk of the person tendering it, oversetting his own boat, by taking in the drowning person.

The construction of these caiques leaves nothing to be wished for, in point of the elegance of their form, and the swiftness of their sailing. Those belonging to the Sultan, are remarkable for their size, their gilding, their general elegance of decoration, and the number and dexterity of the rowers; they carry fourteen pair of oars, and are manned by twenty-eight Bostangis dressed in white; the Bostangi-bachi is the steersman. The caique of the Grand Vizier has twelve pair of oars; that of the principal officers of the Porte, and of the ambassadors of foreign powers, have seven pair. In these larger caiques, one man is necessarily required for each oar; while those of private persons are sufficiently narrow for a single man to make use of two oars at a time.

The prevalence of the plague in Constantinople at this time, rendered Her Majesty's stay even in the environs, and in the delightful retreats of

Buitere, of no considerable danger. After a stay in Constantinople and its neighbourhood, therefore, of ten days only, Her Majesty determined on retiring, and proceeding to St. Jean d'Acre, to commence from that point her long projected, and certainly the most interesting as well as the most dangerous part of her travels, through the deserts to the Holy Land.

Previous to our quitting Constantinople, Her Majesty had an opportunity of witnessing the public procession of the Grand Signior.

One of the great sights in Constantinople, is the procession of the grand Signior, when he goes from the seraglio to one of the principal mosques of the city. At the opening of the Bairam, this ceremony is attended with more than ordinary magnificence.

We were invited by the British ambassador, to be at his palace before sun-rise; as the procession was to take place the moment the sun appeared. We were punctual in our attendance; and were conveyed, with the ladies of the ambassador's family, and many other persons attached to the embassy, in small boats from Trophana. We landed in Constantinople; and were all stationed in a commodious building in one of the streets near the Hippodrome; and through which the procession was to pass.

We had not been long in this situation, before the Janissaries, with large felt caps and white

staves, ranged themselves on each side of the street leading to the mosque; forming an extensive line of sallow looking objects.

About a quarter of an hour before the procession began, the Imam, or High Priest, passed, with his attendants, to the mosque, to receive the Sultan. They were in four covered waggons, followed by twenty priests on horseback. The procession then began, and continued according to the following order:—

Procession of the Grand Signior, at the opening of the Bairam.—1. A Bostanghy, on foot, bearing a wand; 2. Four Baltaghies, or cooks of the seraglio; 3. Fifteen Zaim, or messengers of state; 4. Thirteen of the Chiaoux, or constables, with embroidered turbans; 5. A party of servants of the seraglio; 6. Thirty Capighy Bashies, or porters of the seraglio, in high white caps, and robes of flowered satin; flanked by Baltaghies, or cooks, on each side, who were on horseback, with wands; 7. Baltaghies, on foot, with caps of a conical form, and white wands; 8. Fourteen ditto, more richly dressed, and mounted on superb horses; 9. Other Baltaghies, on foot; 10. Ten of the high constables, on horseback; 11. Forty servants, on foot.

12. The Teftirdagh, or Financier of the realm, on horseback, most magnificently caparisoned; 13. Forty servants, on foot.

14. The Reis-effendy, or Prime Minister, in a light green pelisse, on a magnificent charger, with

most sumptuous housings, &c.; 15. Twenty servants; 16. The great body of the Chiaoux, or constables, with magnificent dresses, and plumes on their heads.

17. The colonel of the Janissaries, with a helmet covered by enormous plumes; 18. A party of fifty constables of the army, in full uniform, with embroidered turbans; 19. Ten beautiful Arabian led horses, covered with the most costly trappings.

20. The Capudan Pasha, on one of the finest horses covered with jewelled housings, in a rich green pelisse, lined with dark fur, and a white turban; 21. Bostanghies, on foot, with white wands; 22. Ten porters belonging to the Grand Vizier.

23. The Kaimakan, on horseback, as representative of the Grand Vizier, in a rich crimson pelisse lined with dark fur, and accompanied by the appendages of office; 24. Twenty servants, on foot, bearing different articles; 25. Twenty of the grooms of state, on horseback, followed by slaves.

26. The master of the Horse, in embroidered satin robes; 27. Servants on foot; 28. The deputy master of the Horse, in robes of embroidered satin; 29. Servants on foot; 30. Inferior chamberlains of the seraglio, on horseback; 31. Bostanghies, with white wands, on foot; 32. The Sumpter-horses of the Sultan, laden with the ancient armour taken from the church of St. Irene in

the seraglio, among which were ancient Grecian bucklers and shields, magnificently embossed and studded with gems; 33. Forty Bostanghies, bearing two turbans of state, flanked on each side by porters; 34. An officer, with a bottle of water; 35. Fifteen Bostanghies, in burnished helmets, bearing two stools of state, flanked on each side by porters.

36. The grand chamberlain, most sumptuously mounted; 39. Bostanghies, in burnished helmets, covered by very high plumes; 38. Lofty waving plumes, supported by chamberlains on foot.

Plumes.	{	<p>39. THE GRAND SIGNIOR, on a beautiful managed Arabian horse, covered with jewels and embroidery, in a scarlet pelisse lined with dark fur, and a white turban; flanked on each side by tall plumes, supported by chamberlains; 40. Lofty waving plumes, supported by chamberlains on foot.</p>	}	Plumes.
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41. Slaves of the seraglio, in black satin, having poignards in their girdles, the handles being studded with pearls; 42. Bostanghies, on foot.

43. The Seliktar Agha, or sword-bearer of state, carrying a magnificent Sable; 44. A party of attendants, on foot; 45. The Agnator Agha, or high chamberlain, on horseback, scattering paras, the small coin of the empire, among the people; 46. Party of attendants, on foot; 47. The Kislar Agha, or chief of the black eunuchs, on horseback, making his salaams to the people, and

flanked on each side by a party of Bostanghies; 48. Other officers of the seraglio, on horseback.

49. The secretary of state, on horseback, bearing the Grand Signior's embroidered leathern porte-feuille; 50. A party of attendants; 51. The Channator Agha, or second of the black eunuchs, on horseback; 52. Party of attendants; 53. The inferior black eunuchs, of the seraglio; 54. Attendants.

55. The treasurer of state; 56. Black eunuchs; 57. The Caiveghy Bashy, or coffee-bearer of the Grand Signior; 58. Two turbans of state, on sumpter-horses; 59. Party of black eunuchs, in very magnificent dresses.

60. Officers of the seraglio; followed by a numerous suit of attendants, some of whom were leading painted mules, carrying carpets and various utensils.

When the ceremony concluded, the Grand Signior, accompanied by the principal officers of state, went to exhibit himself in a kiosk, or tent, near to the seraglio point, sitting on a sofa of silver. We were enabled to view this singular instance of parade, from a boat stationed near the place: and, after the Sultan retired, were permitted to examine the splendid pageant brought out for the occasion. It was a very large wooden couch, covered with thick plates of massive silver, highly burnished. From the form of it, as well as from the style in which it was ornamented, there is little doubt that this

also constituted a part of the treasury of the Greek emperors, when Constantinople was taken by the Turks.

The other mosques of Constantinople have been built after the plan of St. Sophia; and particularly that of Sultan Solyman, which is a superb edifice. It contains twenty-four columns of granite and of Cipolino marble, together with some very large circular slabs of porphyry. Four granite columns within the buildings are near five feet in diameter, and from thirty-five to forty in height. There are also two superb pillars of porphyry at the entrance of the court. The mosque of Sultan Bajazet is rich in ancient columns of granite, porphyry, verde antico, and marble: two of them within the mosque, are thirty feet high, and five feet in diameter. In the mosque called Osmania, are pillars of Egyptian granite, twenty-two feet high, and three feet in diameter; and near it is the celebrated Soros of red porphyry, called the tomb of Constantine, nine feet long, [seven feet wide, and five feet thick, of one entire mass. ¶ The mosque is also famous for its painted glass, and is paved with marble. In the mosque of Sultan Achmed are columns of verde antico, Egyptian granite, and white marble. Several antique vases of glass, and of terra cotta, are also there suspended; as perhaps [similar vessels were in the temples of the ancients, with the other votive offerings.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Ceremonies of the Howling Dervishes and Fire Eaters.—Common Misconceptions concerning the Magnificence of Dwellings in the City of Constantinople.—Turkish Splendour consisting in the Luxuries, not the Comforts of Life.

IN one mosque was exhibited the dance of the dervishes, and in another the exhibition of the howling priests; ceremonies so extraordinary, that it is necessary to see them in order to believe that they are really practised by human beings, as acts of devotion.

The first of these I have already described; the second was conducted in the following manner. This we had not an opportunity of witnessing, but it is too curious and astonishing to omit in a description of Turkish manners. It is thus described by a learned traveller, who was present at an exhibition of it a few years before.

“This extraordinary performance is considered miraculous by the Turks. By their law, every species of dancing is prohibited; and yet, in such veneration is this ceremony held, that an attempt to abolish it would excite insurrection among the people.

“This is an instance of the most extraordinary

superstition perhaps ever known in the history of mankind: it will be recollected that it is the exhibition of pretended miracles, wrought in consequence of the supposed power of faith, by a sect who are called the Howling Dervishes of Scentary.

“We were,” says this gentleman, “accompanied by a Janissary, and arrived at the place where this exhibition is made. The Turks called it a mosque; but it more resembled a barn, and reminded us of the sort of booth fitted up with loose planks by mendicant conjurors at an English fair. This resemblance was further increased, by our finding, at the entrance, two strange figures, who, learning the cause of our visit, asked if we wished to have the ‘fire and dagger business’ introduced among the other performances. We replied by expressing our inclination to see as much of their rites as they might think proper to exhibit: upon this we were told that we must pay something more than usual for the miracles. A bargain was therefore made, upon condition that we should see all the miracles. We were then permitted to enter the mosque, and directed to place ourselves in a small gallery, raised two steps from the floor. Close to one extremity of this gallery, certain of the dervishes were employed in boiling coffee upon two brasiers of lighted charcoal: this was brought to us in small cups, with pipes, and stools for seats. At the other extremity of the gallery, a party of Turks

were also smoking and drinking coffee. Upon the walls of the mosque, were suspended daggers, skewers, wire scourges, pincers, and many other dreadful instruments of torture and penance. It might have been supposed a chamber of the Inquisition, if the ludicrous mummery around had not rather given to it the air of a conjuror's booth. It was a long time before the ceremony began. At length the principal dervish, putting on his robe of state, which consisted of a greasy green pelisse, with half-worn fur, opened the business of the exhibition. At first they repeated the ordinary prayers of the Turks, in which our Janissary joined, after having washed his head, feet, and hands. All strangers afterwards withdrawing to the gallery, a most ragged and filthy set of dervishes seated themselves upon the floor, forming a circle round their superior.

“ These men began to repeat a series of words, as if they were uttering sounds by rote, smiling at the same time with great complacency upon each other: presently, their smiles were converted to a laugh, seemingly so unaffected and so hearty, that we sympathetically joined in their mirth. Upon this, our Janissary and interpreter became alarmed, and desired us to use more caution, as the laughter we noticed, was the result of religious emotion, arising from the delight experienced in pronouncing the attributes of the Deity. During a full hour the dervishes continued laughing and repeating the same words,

inclining their heads and bodies backwards and forwards. They then all rose, and were joined by others, who were to act a very conspicuous part in the ceremony. These were some time in placing themselves: and frequently, after they had taken a station, they changed their post again, for purposes to us unknown. Finally, they all stood in a semicircle before the superior, and then a dance began: this, without any motion of the feet or hands, consisted of moving in a mass from side to side against each other's shoulders, repeating rapidly and continually, the words, Ullah, hoo Ullah! and laughing as before, but no longer with any expression of mirth; it seemed rather the horrid and intimidating grimace of madness. In the mean time the superior moved slowly forward, until he stood in the midst of them, repeating the same words, and making the measure of utterance, by beating his hands, accompanied with a motion of his head. At this time another figure made his appearance, an old man, very like the representations which Spagnolet painted of Diogenes, and quite as ragged. Placing himself on the left of the semicircle, with his face towards the Dervishes, he began to howl the same words, much louder, and with greater animation than the rest, and beating time with all the force of his arms, encouraged them to exertions they were almost incapable of sustaining. Many of them appeared to be almost exhausted, tossing their heads about, while their

laugh presented one of the most horrible convulsions of features the human countenance is capable of assuming. Still the oscillatory motion and the howling continued, becoming every instant more violent; and the sound of their voices resembled the grunting of dying hogs; until at length one of them gave a convulsive spring from the floor, and, as he leaped, called loudly and vehemently "Mohammed!" No sooner was this perceived, than one of the attendants, taking him in his arms, raised him from the floor, and turned him three times round. Then a loud hissing noise, as of fire, proceeded from his mouth which ceased, on the superior placing his hand upon his lips. The same person then taking the skin of his throat between the finger and thumb of his left hand, pierced it through with an iron skewer he held in his right, and left him standing exposed to view in that situation, calling loudly upon Mohammed.

"We now observed the attendants busied on our right-hand below the gallery, heating irons in the brasiers, used for boiling coffee. As soon as the irons were made red hot, they were taken in a glowing state among the dervishes, who, siezing them with violence, began to lick them with their tongues. While we were occupied in beholding this extraordinary sight, our attention was suddenly called off to one of the performers, who was stamping in a distant part of the mosque, with one of the irons between his

teeth. This was snatched from him by the superior; and the man falling into apparent convulsions, was caught by an attendant, and placed upon the floor, with his face to the earth. Some of the rest then jumped about, stabbing themselves in different parts of their bodies.

“As we were already disgusted at such outrages upon religion, under any name, we descended from the gallery, and prepared to walk out; when the superior, fearing that his company might give him the slip, instantly put an end to the leger-de-main, and demanded payment. While this took place, it was highly amusing to see all the fire-eaters, and the dagger bearers, recover at once from their fainting and convulsions, and walk about, talking with each other in perfect ease and indifference.”

The apartments in houses of the Turks are always small. The use of coloured glass in the windows of the mosques, and in some of the palaces is of remote date; it was introduced into England, with other refinements, by the crusaders; and perhaps we may attribute to the same people the style of building observed in many of our most ancient dwelling houses, where, in the diminutive panneling of the wainscot, and the form of the windows, an evident similarity appears to what is common in Turkey. The khans for the bankers seem to rank next to the mosques among the public edifices of any note. The menagerie shewn to strangers is the most

filthy hole in Europe, and it is chiefly tenanted by rats. . . . The pomp of a Turk may be said to consist in his pipe and his horse; the first will cost from twenty to thirty thousand piastres. That of the Capudan Pasha had a spiral ornament of diamonds from one end to the other; and it was six feet in length. Coffee-cups are adorned in the same costly manner. A saddle-cloth embroidered and covered with jewels, stirrups of silver, and other rich trappings, are used by their grandees to adorn their horses.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Her Majesty's departure from Constantinople.—

The passage of the Dardanelles.—Feat of swimming across the Hellespont.—Wine of the Dardanelles.—Expedition planned by Her Majesty to visit the Plains of ancient Troy.—Voyage down the Hellespont.

HER Majesty having now fully determined on quitting Constantinople for the reasons stated, prepared for the journey to the Holy Land and Jerusalem—and projecting a previous visit to the site of ancient Troy, we embarked from the port of Constantinople, under the usual honours, on the 17th June.

Having anchored about three miles above the castles, we landed, and walked to the town of the Dardanelles. In our way, we observed the shafts of several pillars of granite; some of these had been placed upright in the earth, as posts, by means of which to fasten cables for vessels; others were dispersed and neglected. In the recess of a small bay, before reaching the town, is the best situation for viewing the narrow part of the strait, where Xerxes is believed to have passed with his army; and here the two castles have a very striking appearance. Historians object to the story of Leander's enterprise of swimming across

the Hellespont, reasoning upon the supposed impossibility of a man's swimming so great a distance as that which separated Abydos from Sestos. The servant of the imperial consul at the Dardanelles however performed this feat, more than once, in a much wider part of the straits, passing from the Asiatic side of the European castle; whence, after resting himself a few minutes, he swam back again. And our countryman Lord Byron, in company with a naval officer, Lieutenant Ekenhead of the Salsette frigate, also swam across the Hellespont, upon the 3d of May, 1810. They were only an hour and five minutes in completing the passage.

The wine of the Dardanelles is sent to Constantinople, to Smyrna, to Aleppo, and even to England. It will keep to a great age, and if the vintage be favourable, is preferable to that of Tenedos. Both sorts are of a red colour. That of the Dardanelles, after it has been kept twenty or thirty years, loses its colour, but not its strength. It is made chiefly by Jews, and called in Italian, (the language spoken throughout the Levant) *Vino della legge*; because it is pretended, that the Jews, by their law, are prohibited the adulteration of wine. Its price, when of a good quality, is about two pence a bottle.

Having procured at the Dardanelles proper persons to attend us as guides, during our intended expedition to the plain of Troy, and a sufficient number of four-oared boats to conduct

us thither by day-break on the following morning, we returned on board our vessel.

The following morning at an early hour we began our voyage. The day was most serene; not a breath of wind was stirring, nor was there a cloud to be seen in the sky. No spectacle could be more grand than the opening to the Ægean sea. The mountainous island of Imbros, backed by the loftier snow-clad summits of Samothrace extended before the Hellespont, towards the north-west. Next, as we advanced, appeared Tenedos upon the west, and those small isles which form a groupe opposed to the Sigean promontory. Nothing except the oars of our boat, ruffled the still surface of the water: no other sound was heard. The distant islands of the Ægean appeared as if placed upon the surface of a vast mirror. In this manner we passed the Rhœtean promontory upon our left, and beheld upon the sloping side of it, the tumulus, considered as the tomb of Ajax. Coming opposite to a sandy bay, which ancient historians explicitly mention as the naval station of the Greeks, we beheld, at a distance, upon the promontory, those other tumuli which have been called the tombs of Achilles and Patroclus. Upon a sand bank, advanced into the Hellespont, and formed by the deposit of the principal river here disembogued, which for the present may be designated by its modern appellation of Mender appeared the town of Koum-kale.

A very singular appearance takes place at the mouth of this river: as if it refused to mix with the broad and rapid current of the Hellespont, it exhibits an extensive circular line, bounding its pale and yellow water: this line is strongly traced, and the contrast of colour between the salt and the fresh water very striking.

We landed at Koum-kale, literally signifying Sand-castle; and hired horses for our expedition.

In ancient Greece every metropolis possessed its citadel and its plain; the citadel as a place of refuge during war, the plain as a source of agriculture in peace. In the provinces of Greece, therefore, the appearance caused by a plain, flat as the surface of the ocean, and surrounded by mountains, or having lofty rocks in its centre or sides, is at this day the general indication of ruins which denote the locality of some ancient capital. Many of those plains border the sea, and seem to have been formed by the retiring of its waters. Cities so situate were the most ancient: Argos, Sicyon, and Corinth, are of the number. The vicinity of fertile plains to the coast offered settlements to the earliest colonies, before the interior of the country became known. As population increased, or the first settlers were driven inward by new adventurers, inland cities were established; but all of them possessing their respective plains.

In this manner stood the cities of Argos, Sicyon,

Corinth, Megara, Eleusis, Athens, Thebes, and many others. And accordingly, pursuing the inquiry over all the countries bordering the Ægean sea, we find every spacious plain accompanied by the remains of some city, whose celebrity was proportioned either to the fertility of its territory or to the advantages of its maritime position.

We now proceeded towards the plain of the famous Troy, passing many ancient sepulchres and places of burial.

We now arrived at an elevated spot of ground surrounded on all sides by a level plain: here we found not only the traces but also the remains of an ancient citadel. All the territory within these foundations was covered by broken pottery, whose fragments were parts of those ancient terra-cotta vases which are now held in such high estimation.

From the natural or the artificial elevation of the territory on which the city stood, (an insulated object in the plain,) we beheld almost all the objects referred to by ancient historians. The splendid spectacle presented towards the west by the snow-clad top of Samothrace, towering behind Imbrus, would baffle every attempt of delineation: it rose with prodigious grandeur, and while its ethereal summit shone with indescribable brightness in a sky without a cloud, it seemed, notwithstanding its remote situation, as if its vastness would overwhelm all the entire country, should an earthquake dislodge it from its base.

Nearer to the eye appeared the mouth of the Hellespont, and Sigeum. Upon the south, the tomb of Æsyete, by the road leading to Alexandria Troas; and less remote, the Scamander, towards the east, the Trosmos, and far beyond, in the great mount, Gargarus, opposed to Samothrace, dignified by equal, if not superior altitude, and beaming the same degree of splendour from the snow by which it was invested.

Leaving the Dardanelles, we again passed the interesting land of Troas, once more viewing the Rhœtean promontory, tomb of Ajax, the Grecian harbour, the sepulchre of Æsyetes, and the mouth of Xanthus, tinging the dark waters of the Hellespont with its yellow torrent. Our course was along the European side of the channel; as in coasting Sigeum there is a shoal, whereon vessels are often stranded. In order to escape this, ships from the Archipelago avoid bearing up the straits until they are able to see all the windmills stationed upon the brow of the promontory. Two of the tombs mentioned by Strabo appear very conspicuously in that point of view. The house of a dervish is situate in the side of one which is the nearest to the windmills, and to the village of Yeni Cheyr; and this was the sepulchre opened by order of Monsieur de Choiseul. Having doubled the cape, two other tumuli appear upon the coast towards the south. These are very large, and stand close to the cliff above the shore. Down the Hellespont to the passage of the Dardanelles

we sailed on towards Tenedos. The soil, as we approached, seemed bleak and barren; but the island produces the finest wine in the Archipelago. This wine will keep fourteen or sixteen years; after that time it loses its red colour, and becomes white, but retains its strength and flavour to a much longer period.

This island was anciently famous for its earthenware.

Continuing our course towards the south, after passing the town of Tenedos, we were struck by the very grand appearance of an ancient bath. The three arches of the building make a conspicuous figure, from a considerable distance at sea, like the front of a magnificent palace; and this circumstance, connected with the mistake so long prevalent concerning the city itself, gave rise to the appellation of "The Palace of Priam," bestowed by mariners upon these ruins. Hence we sailed to the promontory called Cape Baba, at the mouth of the Adramyttian gulf; the southwestern extremity of that chain of mountains of which Gargarus is the summit. This cape presents a high and bold cliff, on whose steep acclivity the little town of Baba appears. It is famous for the manufacture of knives and poignards: their blades are distinguished in Turkey by the name of Baby Leeks. Afterwards, crossing the mouth of the gulf, we passed round the western point of the island of Mytilene.

Early on the following morning, we entered the

straits, between Scio and the main land. This voyage from the Hellespont, between the continent and adjacent islands, was considered by our captain as mere river sailing ; it is extremely pleasant, but pirates lurk among the straits in greater number than in the more open sea. Being always in sight of land, however, and often close in with it, the prospects are in the highest degree beautiful.

We now arrived at the delightful Scio, where we landed and passed a few days. In the channel between Scio and the opposite Peninsula, the scenery is perhaps unequalled by any thing in the Archipelago ; not only owing to the grandeur, the height, and the magnitude, of the gigantic masses on the coast, but from the extreme richness and fertility of the island, filled with flowery, luxuriant, and odoriferous plants, and presenting a magnificent slope, covered with gardens from the water's edge. Trees bending with fruit,—the citron, the orange, the lemon, the mulberry, and the mastic-tree—are seen forming extensive groves : and in the midst of these appears the town of Scio.

Upon first entering the straits, small objects do not interfere with the stupendous grandeur of the view. Mountains, high, undulating, sweeping, precipitous, inclose the sea on all sides, so as to give to it the appearance of a vast lake, surrounded by that side of Alpine territory, where the eye, from the immensity of objects, roams

with facility over the sides and the summits it beholds ; surveying valleys, precipices, chasms, and bays, and, losing all attention to minuter features, is entirely occupied in viewing the bolder outlines of nature. As we advanced, however, and drew near to Scio, the splendid picture presented by that beautiful island drew all our attention, and engrossed it, from day-light until noon. It is the paradise of modern Greece : more productive than any other island, and yielding to none in grandeur. We passed close beneath the town, sailing pleasantly along its vineyards and plantations, and inhaling spicy odours, wafted from its cliffs and groves. The houses being all white, presented a lively contrast to the evergreens which overshadowed them ; seeming like little palaces in the midst of bowers of citron, lime, olive, and pomegranate trees. This chosen spot was for many years the residence of an Englishman of the name of Baimbridge, who had searched all Europe for a healthy place in which to end his days ; and, although his arm was fractured at the advanced age of seventy-four, he lived in Scio until he was ninety-three. The captain of our vessel well remembered him, when he was himself only the mate of a merchantman, and his master's ship was laid up during a twelve-month in the island. He pointed out the house where he lived, and the tree beneath which he was buried ; and spoke of his own residence in Scio as the happiest remembrance of his life. In-

deed the praises of this favoured island are universal in the country, and its delights constitute the burden of many a tale, and many a song, among the modern Greeks. Its produce is chiefly silk and mastic. From the abundance of the latter article, the Turks call Scio by the name of Sackee, which signifies mastic. The sale of a single ounce of this substance, before the Grand Signior's tributary portion of it has been collected, is punished with death. This portion is annually received by the Cadi in great pomp, attended by music and by other demonstrations of joy.

The inhabitants of Scio amount to about sixty thousand; of which number twenty thousand reside in the town itself.

Having cleared the straits, we sailed along the Ionian coast for the channel separating the stupendous heights of Samos from the lower land of Icaria. This marine pass is at present generally known in these seas by the appellation of the Samian Boccaze. It presents a bold and fearful strait, in the mouth of which is the small island of Fourni. A very heavy sea rolls continually through this channel, so that, with contrary wind, even a frigate can scarcely effect the passage. Samos appeared to us, on its northern side, the most tremendous and precipitous mountain we had ever beheld. Its summit was concealed by a thick covering of clouds, although all the rest of the Archipelago appeared clear and serene. We

were told that the heights of Samos are rarely unveiled. The most enlightened seamen of the day, maintain, upon testimony which it is difficult to dispute, that in stormy weather they have observed a lambent flame playing upon the face of the precipice of Samos, about two-thirds of its height from the surface of the water. They further allege, that the natives of Samos have frequently gone up the mountain, in dark tempestuous weather, to seek this fire, but have never been able to discover whence it issues. It is probably one of those exhalations found in many parts of the world, which are always most conspicuous in hazy and rainy weather; as, for example, the burning vapour at Pietra Mala in Tuscany, which we have already spoken of, and many others. That of Samos, perhaps, from its inaccessible situation, rendered still more difficult of approach in stormy weather, might escape the search of the natives, and yet be visible from a considerable distance at sea.

In describing the scenery which here presented itself, I cannot do it more justice than by using the words of a learned traveller who preceded us. It is not possible for any power of language, says he, adequately to describe the appearance, presented at the rising or setting of the sun, in the *Ægean* sea. Whether in dim perspective, through grey and silvery mists, or amidst hues of liveliest purple, the isles and continents of Greece present their varied features, nor pen, nor pencil,

can pourtray the scenery. Whatsoever, in the warmest fancies of my youth, imagination had represented of this gifted country, was afterwards not only realized, but surpassed. Let the reader picture to his conception an evening sun behind the towering cliffs of Patmos, gilding the battlements of the monastery of the Apocalypse with its parting rays; the consecrated Island, surrounded by inexpressible brightness, seeming to float upon an abyss of fire; while the moon, in milder splendour, is rising full over the opposite expanse. Such a scene we actually witnessed, with feelings naturally excited by all the circumstances of local solemnity; for such, indeed, might have been the face of nature, when the inspiration of an Apostle, kindling in its contemplation, uttered the alleluias of that mighty voice, telling of salvation, and glory, and honour, and power.

How very different were the reflections, caused, upon leaving the deck, by observing a sailor with a lighted match in his hand, and our captain busied in appointing an extraordinary watch for the night, as the precaution against the pirates, who swarm in these seas. Those wretches, dastardly as well as cruel, the instant they board a vessel, put every individual of the crew to death. They lurk about the Isle of Fourni, in great numbers; taking possession of bays and creeks, the least frequented by other mariners. After they have plundered a ship, and murdered

the crew, they bore a hole through her bottom sink her, and take to their boats again.

The next morning we came to anchor in the harbour of the Isle of Stanchio, where the sea appears entirely land-locked; as indeed it does for a very considerable distance from the island, towards the north.

A plane-tree, supposed, and perhaps with reason, to be the largest in the world, is yet standing within the market-place of this town. Travellers described it as "the famous plantain-tree," half a century ago. It once covered with its branches upwards of forty shops; and enough is still remaining to astonish all beholders. An enormous branch, extending from the trunk almost to the sea, although propped by ancient columns of granite, gave way and fell. This has considerably diminished the effect produced by its beauty and prodigious size. Its branches still exhibit a very remarkable appearance, extending horizontally to a surprising distance, supported at the same time by granite and marble pillars found upon the island. Some notion may be formed of the time those props have been so employed, by the appearance of the bark; for this has actually encased the extremities of the columns, and so completely, that the branches and the pillars mutually support each other: it is probable, if those branches were raised, some of them would lift the pillars from the earth.

We now sailed for Rhodes; an eminence, called the Table Mountain, first appearing upon the

latter, and seeming itself to be insular, as if it were separated from the rest of the island. Towards the south, midway between the islands of Crete and Rhodes, we saw the Carpathian Isles, at a surprising distance. We were wafted by favourable breezes during the whole night; and the next morning we entered the old port of Rhodes, between the two piers, on which it has been fancifully asserted, by some modern writers, the feet of the celebrated Colossus formerly rested. The mouth of this harbour is so choked with ruins, that small vessels alone are able to enter; and even our little vessel was aground before she came to her anchor.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Arrival at Rhodes.—Delightful Orange and Citron Groves. — Antiquities. — Remarkable Castle. — Dexterity of its Divers—Curious Instance of it.—Sail for Acre.—Arrival, and general Description of it. — Rosetta. — Arab Seamen.—Rachmanie — Climate of Egypt. — Ophthalmia. —Buffaloes of the Nile.—Whirlwinds of Sand.

RHODES is a truly delightful spot : the air of the place is healthy ; and its gardens are filled with delicious fruit. Here, as in Cos, every gale is scented with the most powerful fragrance, which is wafted from groves of orange and citron trees. Numberless aromatic herbs exhale at the same time such profuse odour, that the whole atmosphere seems to be impregnated with a spicy perfume.

The present inhabitants of the island confirm the ancient history of its climate ; maintaining, that hardly a day passes, throughout the year, in which the sun is not visible. Pagan writers describe it as so peculiarly favoured, that Jupiter is fabled to have poured down upon it a golden shower. The winds are liable to little variation : they are north, or north-west, during almost

every month, but these winds blow with great violence.

The principal ruins at Rhodes are not of very ancient date. The remains of their fine old fortress prove that the building has sustained little injury, owing either to time or to barbarians. It still exhibits a venerable moated castle, of great size and strength; so fortified as to seem almost impregnable. A drawing made from this structure might furnish one of our theatres with a most striking scenic decoration: it appears to combine all that is necessary in a complete system of fortification; dykes and draw-bridges, towers, battlements and bastions. The island was formerly in the possession of the knights of Malta, and the cells of the knights are yet entire, forming a street within the works: and near to these cells is the cathedral, or chapel, whose doors of sycamore wood, curiously carved, and said to be incorruptible, are preserved in their original state.

In the close vicinity of Rhodes are the isles of Syme and Visari: their inhabitants are principally maintained by the occupation of diving for sponges. The following singular custom is observed: When a man of any property intends to have his daughter married, he appoints a certain day, when all the young unmarried men repair to the sea-side, where they strip themselves in the presence of the father and his daughter, and begin diving. He who goes deepest into the

sea, and remains longest under water, obtains the lady.

The following is a curious instance of their dexterity: Some years ago many rare antiquities were obtained by the English ambassador in Athens, and were sunk, by the loss of a vessel in the bay of Cerigo, together with the valuable journals of his secretary, relating to his travels in Greece and Egypt: this gentleman, with great presence of mind, sent for some of these divers; who actually succeeded in penetrating to the ship's hold, and in driving large iron bolts into the cases containing marbles, at the bottom of the sea, in ten fathoms water: to these they afterwards applied cords, and thus succeeded in raising a part of the ship's cargo.

We had no sooner entered the mouth of the gulf of Glaucus, than we encountered a tremendous swell, which our pilot had taught us to expect. At one moment, a gust, as of a hurricane, laid our vessel upon her beam-ends; at another, the sails were shaking, as in a calm, and the ship pitching in all directions. In this situation night came on. Land around us, on every side, increased our apprehensions; but patience and labour at last brought us quietly to anchor on the eastern side of one of the six isles in the entrance to this bay, behind which vessels lie most commodiously that visit the place for the purpose of watering.

Our course now lay direct for St. Jean d'Acre, and having fair weather, we came in sight of the coast on the 1st July. The mountains, covered with brush-wood, shelve gently down to the shore. Beyond is a point of land running for some distance into the sea: this was fatal to the flotilla that carried the battering train of Buonaparte's army before Acre; it was taken by the squadron under Sir Sidney Smith. Mount Carmel rises behind it; and Caiphas, surmounted by two or three towers, is at its extremity. As soon as we had passed, we entered the Bay of Acre. This bay is about three leagues broad, and two deep; the land adjoining is a plain, encircled by a range of hills, that present themselves on approaching Acre in this direction, as if immediately behind. The town appears low when first seen: two or three high houses, a cupola, and a minaret, rise above the rest;—afterwards its fortifications are distinguishable, in a sea front, with embrasures, behind which is a Saracenic wall with battlements.

We entered the port of Acre on the 2d of July, through a ruined mole, at the end of which is an insulated tower and light-house: between this and the mole vessels of burthen are obliged to pass; small craft enter outside the mole, and many more close to the walls. I remained two hours on board, waiting for the captain of the port to awake and grant permission to land. As

soon as this was obtained I went to the residence of the English vice-consul, whose apartments were in a large okella, inhabited by the different consulates and principal Franks of the town. There I had a room given me : yet, though I was treated with great hospitality, I regretted that I did not take advantage of a letter to the convent, from that in Jerusalem ; for I soon found that my host considered himself ill-used by the British government, from not being allowed a salary.

The remembrance of the gallant resistance of Djezzar Pasha to Buonaparte, had excited my curiosity to see this celebrated place ; I took the earliest opportunity of going through the town, and examining its exterior. I had no inclination to visit the reigning Pasha, whose favour would only have been shown by a permission to enter the principal mosque ; for which, I learnt, the attendants would require a much larger sum than I was disposed to give.

The town stands upon a point of low land, is much smaller than I had supposed, irregularly and meanly built, though most of the houses are of stone : none of the mosques are remarkable, except the principal one above mentioned : this is large, its roof formed by a handsome cupola, surrounded by one very lofty minaret. It was built by Djezzar, and is rich in marbles. Near the mosque are the seraglios of the Pasha, and his prime minister and favourite, Ali ; which are

distinguished only by the extent of blank wall surrounding them. The bazars were filled with shops, and much crowded in the early part of the morning. The number of the inhabitants about five thousand.

Every traveller who visits Acre hears some additional story of the cruelty of Djezzar. It is terrible to think how man can treat his fellow. The number of faces without noses and ears, strikes every one who has visited this part of Syria: yet, even after this punishment, it was no uncommon thing for him to keep men in his employment: of this there is a remarkable instance in the person of the richest Jew at Acre, whom I saw: he exercised some office of trust in his service, and continues still to do so in the seraglio of the present Pasha.

A few years ago Djezzar had reason to suspect fraud in the conduct of some of the officers of his seraglio; and, as he could not discover the offenders, he had between fifty and sixty of them seized, stripped naked, and laid on the ground, and to each placed a couple of Janissaries, who were ordered to hew them in pieces with their swords. This execution was seen by the person who related it to me, and described with every aggravation of horror that may be supposed attached to such an event. Yet the barbarian who caused the execution died in his bed!

Her Majesty purposing to visit the Pyramids, we now proceeded by the way of Rosetta and the

Nile. Soon after leaving Rosetta, we passed some extensive canals, conveying water to lands above the level of the river : these are supplied by wheels, sometimes turned by oxen, but more generally by buffaloes. They are banked by very lofty walls, constructed of mud, hardened by the sun. One of them, upon the western side of the river, extended to the lake Maadie. The land, thus watered, produces three crops in each year ; the first of clover, the second of corn, and the third of rice. The rice-grounds are inundated from the time of sowing nearly to harvest ; and the seed is commonly cast upon the water, a practise distinctly mentioned in sacred Scripture, "Cast thy bread upon the waters : for thou shalt find it after many days." When the rice-plants are about two feet high, they are transplanted. Besides the method of raising water into the high grounds near the river, by means of buckets fastened to a wheel, where the land is not much elevated above the surface of the Nile, they use a simple, and probably a very ancient contrivance, of lifting it in a basket, lined perhaps with close matting, or with leather. Two men, holding the basket between them, by a cord in each hand fastened to the edge of it, lower it into the Nile, and then swing it between them until it acquires a velocity sufficient to enable them to throw the water, over a bank, into a canal near the river. The regular continuance of their motion gives them, at a distance, the appearance of automaton

figures, rather than of living beings. They work naked, exposed to the sun's most powerful rays, during the whole day, repeating one of their Arabian songs, for they seem to have a peculiar air adapted to every labour. As to their summer clothing, when they wear any, it consists only of a blue cotton shirt, girded by a belt round the waist. The Arabs whom we saw occasionally near the river, whether alone or in company, made their appearance without any kind of covering.

The north and north-west, or Etesian winds, prevail with much violence, and for a considerable length of time, during the months of July and August. As this monsoon happens annually, at the period of the Nile's inundation, the wonderful advantages it offers for the commerce of the country exceed any thing, perhaps, known upon earth: A vessel, leaving Rosetta, is driven by it with extraordinary velocity against the whole force of the torrent to Cairo, or into any part of Upper Egypt. For the purpose of her return, with even greater rapidity, it is only necessary to take down mast and sails, and leave her to be carried against the wind by the powerful current of the river. It is thus possible to perform the whole voyage, from Rosetta to Bulac, the quay of Cairo, and back again, with certainty, in about seventy hours; a distance equal to four hundred miles.

The Arab crew of our boat washed their hands, faces, and teeth, before and after eating; cleansing

their teeth with wood-ashes, which they collected for this purpose from the fire, by boiling our kettle. The common fuel used by the inhabitants of the country is prepared from a mixture of camel's dung, mud, and straw: these ingredients, being made into a paste, are collected in the form of balls, which are afterwards flattened upon the walls of their huts for drying in the sun, and thus formed into circular cakes. From the ashes, after burning these cakes, the ammonia is obtained, which is afterwards sent to Europe. The process is briefly and perspicuously described by Shaw, in the Appendix to his Travels. Opposite to Rachmanie there is a small island, in the middle of the river. A large vessel with three masts was stationed near the town. The Nile is here very broad, and the current was at this time prodigiously rapid; yet the strength of the Etesian wind enabled us to stem its force, and to proceed with very great velocity. Villages, in an almost uninterrupted succession, denoted a much greater population than we had imagined this country to contain. Upon each side of the river, as far as the eye could reach, we saw rich fields of corn and rice, with such beautiful groves, seeming to rise out of the watery plains, and to shade innumerable settlements in the Delta, amidst never-ending plantations of melons, and all kinds of garden vegetables, that, from the abundance of its harvests, Egypt may be deemed the richest country in the world. Such is the

picture exhibited to the native inhabitants, who are seasoned to withstand the disorders of the country, and can bear with indifference the attacks of myriads of all sorts of noxious animals; to whom mud and musquitoes, or dust and vermin, are alike indifferent; who, having never experienced one comfortable feeling in the midst of their highest enjoyments, nor a single antidote to sorrow in the depths of their wretchedness, vegetate, like the bananas and sycamores around them. But strangers, and especially the inhabitants of northern countries, where wholesome air and cleanliness are among the necessities of life, must consider Egypt as the most detestable region upon the earth. Upon the retiring of the Nile, the country is one vast swamp. The atmosphere, impregnated with every putrid and offensive exhalation, then stagnates, like the filthy pools over which it broods. Then, too, the plague regularly begins; nor ceases, until the waters return again. Throughout the spring, intermitting fevers universally prevail. About the beginning of May, certain winds cover even the sands of the desert with the most disgusting vermin. The latest descendants of Pharaoh are not yet delivered from the evils which fell upon the land when it was smitten by the hands of Moses and Aaron; the "plague of frogs," the "plague of lice," the "plague of flies," the "murrain, boils, and blains," prevail, so that the whole country is corrupted, and literally, "The dust of the earth becomes

lice, upon man and upon beast, throughout the land of Egypt." At the period of the overflow, persons who drink the water become subject to a disorder called "prickly heat:" this often terminates in those dreadful wounds alluded to in the sacred writings, by the words "boils and blains." During the months of June, July, and August, many individuals are deprived of sight, owing to a disorder of the eyes peculiar to this country. Europeans, having no other name for it, have called it Ophthalmia, from the organs it afflicts. There was hardly an individual who did not suffer, more or less, the consequences of this painful malady. It commences with a sensation as if grains of sand had been cast into the eyes. At this season, also, the dysentery begins to number its victims; and although some be fortunate enough to escape the worst effects of this disorder, it proves fatal in many instances. A traveller may escape most of these evils by proper attention; and if he visit the country so as to profit by the Etesian winds at the time of the inundation, and hire a Djerm for his constant residence upon the river, he may venture into Upper Egypt, and visit its stupendous remains of antiquity with ease and comfort. The never-failing monsoon carries him along, sitting in a cool and comfortable cabin, with every convenience for reading or writing, for food or rest; and the current of the river alone operates as favourably for his return.

After passing Rachmanie, darkness deprived us of the very interesting landscape with which we had been continually gratified during the day. We continued sailing almost the whole night, under the care and guidance of our steady pilot at the helm, who, as master of the Djerm, remained at his post until morning dawned. Four men, besides himself, constituted the whole of the crew; all of whom were Arabs. During the time they remained in our service, they were diligent, industrious, faithful, always sober, obliging, and very skilful in managing their vessel. When daylight appeared, upon Saturday, August the eleventh, they told us they had anchored for some time at a village, fearful of being boarded by pirates during the extreme darkness that prevailed, especially as the light in our cabin rendered the Djerm visible from the sides of the river. About eight o'clock, A. M. we reached a miserable town, called Koum or Koume Scheriff, built entirely with mud. Soon afterwards we passed the town of Amrus, also constructed of mud, and containing a number of lofty conical pigeon-houses, similarly built; exhibiting a novel and remarkable appearance in the approach to this place. Pigeon's dung, everywhere valuable as manure, is here an important acquisition; for by mixing it with the sand upon the little islands left by the torrent in the midst of the river, a soil is formed, capable of producing water-melons.

Afterwards we saw many beautiful birds, of

whose names we are entirely ignorant ; particularly one of the plover kind, whose plumage displayed the most lively and variegated colours. The-pigeon-cones increased very much after passing Amrus ; almost every village being furnished with them. Buffaloes, swimming about in the Nile, afford a singular sight, with their black noses sticking out of the water, snorting as they cross from side to side, all the rest of their bodies being concealed. But the most remarkable appearance of living beings, may be noticed by dipping a ladle or bucket into the midst of the river, which is everywhere dark with mud, and observing the swarms of animals contained in the torrent. Among these, tadpoles and young frogs are so numerous, that, rapid as the current flows, there is no part of the Nile where the water is destitute of them. A singular phænomenon engrossed all our attention : One of those immense columns of sand, mentioned by travellers, came rapidly towards us, turning upon its base as upon a pivot ; it crossed the Nile so near to us, that the whirlwind by which it was carried placed our vessel upon its beam-ends, bearing its large sail quite into the water, and nearly upsetting the boat. As we were engaged in righting the vessel, the column disappeared.

Parties of young Arabs continually accompanied our vessel this day, running along the banks of the river, and tumbling, to obtain a few paras, as we see children in many parts of England ;

sometimes walking upon their hands, with their heels in the air; at others, whirling upon their hands and feet, to imitate the motion of a wheel. Judging from the appearance these presented, the Arab complexion, at a very early age, is tawny, and almost black. They swim and dive remarkably well; but these are arts in which all eastern nations excel those of the western world. About three leagues before our arrival at Kafrakadia, there was such an amazing quantity of corn in heaps near the river, that it extended nearly to the length of a mile.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

First View of the Pyramids.—The Impression produced by their distant Appearance.—Arrival at Cairo.—The Plagues of Egypt.—Arab Manners and Dress.—Arab Mode of Riding.—Their singular Personal Concealment.—Return to Acre.—Sail thence for Jaffa.—Difficulty of obtaining Passports.—Her Majesty compelled to return to Acre.—Passports granted.—Her Majesty's Retinue and Escort assembled.—The Journey commenced.—Description of the Retinue and Preparations.

ON the morning of the third day we were roused, as soon as the sun dawned, by our Greek servants and interpreters, with the intelligence that “The Pyramids were in view!” We hastened from the cabin,—and never will the impression, made by their appearance, be obliterated. By reflecting the sun’s rays, they appeared white as snow; and of such surprising magnitude, that nothing we had previously conceived in our imagination had prepared us for the sight of these monuments. We were instantly convinced that, in force of description, no accuracy of delineation can convey ideas adequate to the effect which is produced in beholding them. The formality of their struc-

ture is lost in their prodigious grandeur. Another proof of their indescribable power is, that no one ever approached them under other emotions than those of terror.

We now arrived at Cairo, and, by means of the canal which intersects the city, and was now filled with its muddy water, we visited a great part of the city in a boat. The prodigious number of gardens give to it so pleasing an appearance, and the trees growing in those gardens are so new to the eyes of a European, that for a moment he forgets the innumerable abominations of the dirtiest city in the whole world.

We experienced some of the plagues of Egypt: a singular species of lizard made its appearance in every chamber, having circular membranes at the extremity of its feet, which gave it such tenacity, that it walked upon window panes of glass, or upon the surfaces of pendent mirrors. This revolting sight was common to every apartment, whether in the houses of the rich or of the poor. At the same time, such a plague of flies covered all things with their swarms, that it was impossible to eat without hiring persons to stand by every table with feathers, or flappers, to drive them away. Liquor could not be poured into a glass; the mode of drinking was, by keeping the mouth of every bottle covered until the moment it was applied to the lips; and instantly covering it with the palm of the hand, when removing it to offer any one else. The

utmost attention to cleanliness, by a frequent change of every article of wearing apparel, could not repel the attacks of vermin, which seemed to infest even the air of the place.

An Englishman hearing a party of Egyptian Arabs in conversation, and being ignorant of their language, would suppose they were quarrelling. The Arabic, as spoken by Arabs, is more harsh even than the Welsh, but the dialect of Egypt appeared to us to be particularly harsh. It is always spoken with a vehemence of gesticulation, and loudness of tone, which is quite a contrast to the stately sedate manner of speaking among the Turks: we were constantly impressed with a notion that the Arabs, in conversation, were quarrelling. More than once we ordered the interpreter to interfere, and to pacify them; when it appeared that we were mistaken, and that nothing was further from their feelings, at the time, than anger. The effect is not so unpleasing to the ear, when Arab women converse; although the gesticulation be nearly the same. The dress of polished ladies was much more elegant than any female costume we had before observed in the East, and it was entirely borrowed from the ancients. A zone placed immediately below the bosom served to confine a loose robe, open in front, so as to display a pair of rich pantaloons. The feet were covered with embroidered slippers, but the ankle and instep were naked; and round

the lower part of the leg, above the ankle, they wore cinctures of massive gold.

The Arabs, who generally sing during labour, use an Hebrew invocation of the Deity while they are passing, in their boats, beneath a bridge; calling Eloi! Eloi! (pronounced Elóhe!) in a plaintive tone of incantation. The females of Cairo are often seen, in the public streets, riding upon asses and upon mules: they sit in the masculine attitude, like the women of Naples and other parts of Italy. Their dress consists of a hood, and cloak, extending to the feet, with a stripe of white calico in front, concealing the face and breast, but having two small holes for the eyes. In this disguise, if any man were to meet his own wife, or his sister, he would not be able to recognise her, unless she were to speak to him; and this is seldom done, because the suspicious Moslems, observing such an intercourse, might suppose an intrigue to be going on; in which case they would put one, if not both of them, to death.

On the 5th we set sail for Jaffa, which is distant but half a day's journey. Her Majesty purposed going thence, by land to Jerusalem; but, as we were unprovided with passports, the Bey refused to let more than five persons proceed.

This information spread consternation throughout the suite, as it would have been difficult to choose five out of twenty-six; and besides, that

each individual of the suite was naturally anxious to go to Jerusalem; it was the great object of the journey, and the hope of it alone had enabled us to support our fatigues with resignation and patience. It was hard thus to find our expectation deceived, at the very moment in which we depended on its being realized. Her Majesty, however, ever decisive in her resolves, immediately formed her determination, without explaining it to any one; she promptly gave orders to the captain to set sail that same evening for St. Jean d'Acre, where we arrived on the 6th. Her Majesty proceeded in person to the governor, and urged him to grant permission to the whole of the suite to travel to Palestine. He at first started many difficulties. These were, however, gradually overcome by the sight of some rich presents exhibited to him, which operated on his avarice—a vice so powerful among his fraternity, that they seem unable to do other than yield to it, even at the hazard of their lives and favour. Thus, to travel amongst the Turks, it is not only necessary to be well provided with money, but also to be liberal of it; and it is only by its means, or with presents, that what is desired can be obtained from them. The governor, not wishing that the real motive which tempted him to deviate from his duty should be known, informed Her Majesty, through the medium of his interpreter, that as he had received great obligations from, and felt that gratitude was due to the

English, for the services rendered to the city, he was resolved, at all hazards, to grant this indulgence to their sovereign : he was even generous in return, for he made Her Majesty a present of five linen tents, a zetique, similar to those used in Sicily, and as many horses as were necessary for the journey ; also an escort of officers of the guard, guides to conduct us, and camels to transport our baggage.

On the 8th of July, at eight o'clock in the evening, we commenced our pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the retinue presenting the appearance of a little army—for our number exceeded two hundred persons. We were compelled to travel during the night, on account of the excessive heat of the day. The first night of the journey we were terrified with a view of the horrible and almost impracticable paths which we had to traverse ; they were every where choked with rocks, brambles and thorns, and were so confined, that we were every moment in danger of being thrown down : add to this, that our fear was not likely to be diminished by the total absence of every kind of habitation. We were also aware that the desert was infested by robbers and banditti : against these, however, our escort a little re-assured us ; especially as the governor, fearing the power of the Princess, to whom he gave the title of Queen of England, had taken every precaution to prevent the possibility of insult being offered to her, justly apprehending, that if it were other-

wise, he should be the first to feel its effects. Private individuals, without power or protection, travelling through this country, would certainly be exposed to great danger, and probably would not quit it with life : indeed it is very rarely that Europeans are seen in the country. Many who have meditated this journey, have renounced it on a nearer view of the dangers to which they would constantly be exposed. Her Majesty however, true to her praiseworthy purpose, and discouraged by no difficulties, surmounted all, and effected the objects of her great enterprise without delay or embarrassment.

After the arduous journey of the first night, we arrived, at five o'clock in the morning, at a plain, where we halted for the day, pitched our tents, and set out our mattresses on the ground. It was, however, found utterly impossible to obtain any repose ; the burning sun penetrated the tents in spite of the extreme thickness of the linen ; and a number of venomous insects assailed us from beneath our tents, and stung us with such violence, that we were swoln all over. To remedy this inconvenience, we were advised to anoint ourselves with the juice of the bitter citron ; which succeeded admirably. The earth beneath our feet was glowing, and it was impossible to obtain even a tolerable coolness in any situation ; the plain was perfectly dried up, and covered with arid rocks ; not a single tree, or plant, meeting the eye ; whilst a burning thirst devoured us,

without water to quench it ; it was with difficulty we found enough to make a little soup, and even that proved of bad quality. We had wine, but its high temperature rendered it useless to allay thirst. Happily, however, from time to time some gourds were found ; the interior of which affords a considerable quantity of an insipid juice. These therefore formed our chief nourishment, with the exception of a few cucumbers, and some dates, so withered, that elsewhere they would not have been touched. In the torment of excessive thirst, in such situations, all nourishment which is not liquid, excites the utmost abhorrence ; for it is much easier to abstain from eating than drinking. At length, after a terrific day, spent under these circumstances, our caravan set forward at six o'clock in the evening : the roads never appeared so bad to us as that night ; exceedingly narrow ; up hill and down ; at times filled with stones and brambles, so interwoven, that the feet of the horses became entangled in them, and they had much difficulty in extricating themselves. Many of our conductors fell from their camels, overcome by weariness and sleep. Her Majesty, who rode generally on an ass, was so much exhausted with fatigue that it became necessary to have an attendant constantly walking beside her, to support her in her seat.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Her Majesty's Progress to Nazareth. — Arrival there. — Objects of interest. — Fountain of the Virgin Mary. — Entertainment of Her Majesty. — Convent of Franciscans : — Extraordinary Superstitions of the Inhabitants respecting it. — Holy Relics — Stone on which Christ sat with the Disciples after the Resurrection. — Her Majesty leaves Nazareth for a Tour of Galilee. — Proceeds to Galilee and the Lake of Gennesareth. — Village of Cana. — Fountain of the Water converted into Wine at the Marriage Feast. — Field in which the Disciples plucked the Ears of Corn on the Sabbath. — The Spot on which Christ fed the Multitude. — Grand Scenery of the Lake of Gennesareth. — Town of Tiberias. — One of the earliest Christian Churches supposed to have been built by Peter.

OUR paths, for roads they may not be called, lay during this night principally ascending, until we entered a narrow defile between the hills. This, suddenly opening towards our right, presented us with a view of the small town, or village of Nazareth, situate upon the side of a barren rocky elevation, facing the east, and commanding a long valley. This place appears to suffer much from tyrannical government. Its inhabitants, unable to sustain the burdens imposed upon them, continually emigrate to other territories. The

town was in the most wretched state of indigence and misery ; the soil around might bid defiance to agriculture ; and to the prospect of starvation were frequently added the horrors of the plague. In the valley appeared one of those fountains which, from time immemorial, have been the halting-place of caravans, and sometimes the scene of contention and bloodshed. The women of Nazareth were passing to and from the town, with pitchers upon their heads. We stopped to view the group of camels, with their drivers, who were there reposing ; and, calling to mind the manners of the most remote ages, we renewed the solicitations of Abraham's servant unto Rebecca, by the well of Nabor. In the writings of early pilgrims and travellers, this spring is denominated "The fountain of the Virgin Mary ;" and certainly, if there be a spot, throughout the Holy Land, that was undoubtedly honoured by her presence, we may consider this to have been the place ; because the situation of a copious spring is not liable to change ; and because the custom of repairing thither to draw water has been continued, among the female inhabitants of Nazareth, from the earliest period of its history.

After leaving this fountain, we ascended to the town, and were conducted to the house of the principal Christian inhabitant of Nazareth, where, in the midst of poverty, was more sumptuous fare than is often found in wealthier cities ; the convent had largely contributed ; but we had reason

to fear, that many poor families had been pinched to supply our board. All we could do, therefore, as it was brought with cheerfulness, was to receive it thankfully; and Her Majesty took especial care that those from whom we obtained it, should not go unrewarded.

Scarcely had we reached the apartment prepared for our reception, when, looking from the window into the court-yard belonging to the house, we beheld two women grinding at the mill, in a manner most forcibly illustrating the saying of our Saviour before alluded to. They were preparing flour to make our bread, as it is always customary in the country when strangers arrive. The two women, seated upon the ground, opposite to each other, held between them two round flat stones, such as are seen in Lapland, and such as in Scotland are called querns.

The convent of Nazareth, situate in the lower part of the village, contains about fourteen Friars, of the Franciscan order. Its church, (erected, as they relate, over the cave in which the Virgin Mary is supposed to have resided) is a handsome edifice; but it is degraded, as a sanctuary, by absurdities too contemptible for notice, if the description of them did not offer an instructive lesson, by shewing the abject state to which the human mind may be reduced by superstition. Persons infected with the plague seek a miraculous cure, by rubbing their bodies with the hangings of the sanctuary, and thus communicate

infection to the whole town; because, all who enter, salute these hangings with their lips. Many of those unhappy patients believed themselves to be secure, from the moment when they were brought within the walls of this building, although in the last stage of the disorder. As we passed towards the church, one of the Friars pointed to some invalids who had recently exhibited marks of the infection: these men were then sitting upon the bare earth, in cells, around the courtyard of the convent, waiting for a miraculous recovery.

Having entered the church, the Friars put burning wax tapers into our hands; and, charging us on no account to touch any thing, led the way, muttering their prayers. We descended, by a flight of steps, into the cave before mentioned; entering, by means of a small door, behind an altar laden with pictures, wax-candles, and all sorts of superstitious trumpery. They pointed out to us, what they called the kitchen and the fire-place of the Virgin Mary. As all these sanctified places, in the Holy Land, contain some supposed miracle for exhibition, the Monks of Nazareth have taken care not to be without their share in supernatural rarities; accordingly, the first things they shew to strangers who descend into this cave, are two stone pillars in the front of it; one of which, separated from its base, is said to sustain its capital and a part of its shaft miraculously in the air, whereas the fact is, that

the capital and a piece of the shaft have been fastened on to the roof of the cave; and so clumsily is the rest of the hocus pocus contrived, that what is shewn for the lower fragment of the same pillar resting upon the earth, is not of the same substance, the shaft being of granite, the lower portion of marble! The reputation of the broken pillar for healing every kind of disease prevails all over Galilee.

It is from extravagancies of this kind, throughout this country, that devout, but weak men, unable to discriminate between mummery and simple truth, have considered the whole series of evidence to be found there as a tissue of imposture, and have left the Holy Land worse Christians than they were when they arrived.

One celebrated relic presented in Nazareth particularly deserves mention. This is a large stone, on which they affirm that Christ sat with his disciples, both before and after his resurrection. A chapel is built over it; and upon the walls of this building several copies of a printed certificate, asserting its title to reverence, are affixed. There is no object in all Nazareth so much the resort of Pilgrims as this stone,—Greeks, Catholics, Arabs, and even Turks; the two former classes on account of the seven years indulgence granted to those who visit it; the two latter, because they believe that some virtue must reside within a stone before which all comers are so eager to prostrate themselves.

In the evening, we visited the environs ; and, walking to the brow of a hill above the town, were gratified by an interesting prospect of the long valley of Nazareth, and some hills, between which a road leads to the neighbouring plain of Esdraelon, and to Jerusalem. Some of the Arabs came to converse with us. We were surprised to hear them speak Italian : they said they had been early instructed in this language by the Friars of the convent. Their conversation was full of complaints against the rapacious^e tyranny of their governors.

After a sleepless night, rising more fatigued than when we retired to rest, and deeming a toilsome journey preferable to the suffering state we had endured, we left Nazareth at an early hour. Instead of proceeding to Jerusalem, (our intention being to complete the tour of Galilee, and to visit the lake of Gennesareth,) we returned by the way we came, until we had quitted the valley, and ascended the hills to the north of the town. We then descended, in the same northerly direction, or rather north-east, into some fine valleys, more cultivated than any land we had yet seen in this country, surrounded by rocky hills destitute of trees. After thus riding for an hour, we passed the village of Rani, leaving it upon our left, and came in view of the small village of Cana, situate on a gentle eminence, in the midst of one of these valleys. About a quarter of a mile before we entered the village, is a spring of delicious limpid

water, close to the road, whence all the water is taken for the supply of the village. Pilgrims of course halt at this spring, as the source of the water which our Saviour, by his first miracle, converted into wine. At such places it is usual to meet either shepherds reposing with their flocks, or caravans, halting to drink. A few olive-trees being near to the spot, travellers alight, spread their carpets beneath these trees, and, having filled their pipes, generally smoke tobacco, and take some coffee; always preferring repose in these places, to the accommodations which are offered in the villages. Such has been the custom of the country from time immemorial.

We entered Cana, and halted at a small Greek chapel, in the court of which we all rested, while our breakfast was spread upon the ground. This grateful meal consisted of about a bushel of cucumbers; some white mulberries, a very insipid fruit, gathered from the trees reared to feed silkworms; hot cakes of unleavened bread, fried in honey and butter; and, as usual, plenty of fowls. We were afterwards conducted into the chapel, in order to see the relics and sacred vestments there preserved. When the poor priest exhibited these, he wept over them with much apparent sincerity, and lamented the indignities to which the holy places were exposed in affecting terms. Such were the tears which formerly excited the sympathy, and roused the valour of the crusaders. The ruins of a church are shewn in this place,

which is said to have been erected over the spot where the marriage-feast of Cana was celebrated. About three miles beyond Cana, we passed the village of Turan. Near to this place they pretend to shew the field where the disciples of Jesus Christ plucked the ears of corn upon the sabbath-day. The Italian Catholics gather the bearded wheat, which is annually growing there, as a part of the collection of relics to be conveyed to their own country.

Small plantations of olives afforded us occasional temporary shelter: without which the heat was greater than we could have endured. Having rested an hour, taking coffee, as usual, with the Arabs of our party, we continued our journey. The earth was covered with thistles in such numerous variety, that a complete collection of them would be an interesting acquisition for the botanist. A plant, which we mistook for the Jerusalem artichoke, was seen every where, with a purple head, rising to the height of five or six feet. The scorching rays of the sun put it out of our power to collect specimens of all these; no one of the party having sufficient resolution to descend from his horse, and abandon his umbrella, even for an instant. As we advanced, our journey led us through an open campaign country, until, upon our right, the guides shewed to us the Mount where it is believed that Christ preached to his disciples that memorable sermon, in which are concentrated the sum and substance of every

Christian virtue. We left our route to visit this elevated spot: and having attained the highest point of it, a view was presented, which, for its grandeur, independently of the interest excited by the different objects contained in it, has nothing to equal it in the Holy Land.

From this situation we perceived that the plain, over which we had been so long riding, was itself very elevated. Far beneath appeared other plains, one lower than the other, in a regular gradation, reaching eastward, as far as the surface of the Sea of Tiberias, or Sea of Galilee. This immense lake, almost equal, in the grandeur of its appearance, to that of Geneva, spreads its waters over all the lower territory, extending from the north-east towards the south-west. Its eastern shores exhibit a sublime scene of mountains towards the north and south, and they seem to close it in at either extremity; both towards Chorazin, where the Jordan enters, and the country through which this river flows to the Dead Sea. The cultivated plains reaching to its borders, which we beheld at an amazing depth below our view, resembled, by the various lines their different produce presented, the motley pattern of a vast carpet. The exceeding fertility of this part of the Holy Land is noticed by all travellers, and all authors, who have mentioned this country. Josephus speaks of the extraordinary aptitude, both of the climate and soil, towards the production of all kinds of fruit and vegetables; so that plants, requiring

elsewhere a difference of temperature, thrive here, says he, as if the seasons were in a competition which should contribute most. Figs and grapes continue in season during ten months out of the twelve, and other fruit throughout the whole year. To the north appeared snowy summits, towering beyond a series of intervening mountains, with unspeakable greatness. We considered them as the summits of Mount Lebanon : but the Arabs belonging to our caravan called the principal eminence Jebel el Sich, saying it was near to Damascus ; probably, therefore, a part of the chain of Libanus. This summit was so lofty, that the snow entirely covered the upper part of it : not lying in patches, as during summer, upon the tops of some very elevated mountains, (for instance, upon that of Ben Nevis in Scotland) but investing all the higher part with that perfect white and smooth velvet-like appearance which snow only exhibits when it is very deep ; a striking spectacle in such a climate, where the beholder, seeking protection from a burning sun, almost believes the firmament to be on fire. The elevated plains upon the mountainous territory beyond the northern extremity of the lake are still called by a name, in Arabic, which signifies “ the Wilderness.” To this wilderness it was that John, the præcursor of the Messiah, retired, and also Jesus himself, in their earliest years. To the south-west, at the distance only of twelve miles, we beheld Mount Thabor, having a conical form,

and standing quite insular, upon the northern side of the wide plains of Esdraelon.

By a steep, devious, and difficult track, following our horses on foot, we descended from this place to the village of Hatti, situate at one extremity of the cultivated plain we had surveyed from the heights. Here, when we had collected the stragglers of our party into a large plantation of lime and lemon-trees, we were regaled by the Arabs with all their country afforded. Having spread mats for us beneath the trees, they came and seated themselves amongst us, gazing, with very natural surprise, at their strange guests. Some of the Arabs were Druses. These are much esteemed in the countries bordering the seat of their government, for their great probity, and a mildness of disposition, which, in Syria, is proverbially attributed to the members of their community. It is said that they will neither eat nor drink, except of food which they have obtained by their own labour, or, as the Arabs literally expressed it, "by the sweat of their brow."

As we rode from this village towards the Sea of Tiberias, the guides pointed to a sloping spot from the heights upon our right, whence we had descended, as the place where the miracle was accomplished by which our Saviour fed the multitude: it is therefore called the Multiplication of Bread. This part of the Holy Land is full of wild animals. Antelopes are very numerous: we

had the pleasure to see these beautiful quadrupeds in their natural state, feeding among the thistles and tall herbage of these plains, and bounding before us occasionally, when we disturbed them. The Arabs frequently take them, in the chase. The lake now continued in view upon our left. The wind rendered its surface rough, and called to mind the situation of our Saviour's disciples, when, in one of the small vessels which traverse these waters, they were tossed in a storm, and saw Jesus, in the fourth watch of the night, walking to them upon the waves. Often as this subject has been painted, which combines a number of circumstances favourable to a sublime representation, no artist has been aware of the uncommon grandeur of the scenery, memorable for the transaction. The lake of Gennesareth is surrounded by objects well calculated to heighten the solemn impression made by such a picture ; and, independently of the local feelings likely to be excited in its contemplation, it affords one of the most striking prospects in the Holy Land. It is by comparison alone that any due conception of its appearance can be communicated to the minds of those who have not seen it : speaking of it comparatively, it may be described as longer and finer than any of our Cumberland and Westmoreland lakes, although it be perhaps inferior to Loch Lomond in Scotland.

As we entered the gate of the town, the Turkish guards were playing at chess. They conducted

us to the residence of the Governor, having made as rapid a disposition as possible of our baggage, for the purpose of passing the night in a large room of the castle, which reminded us of ancient apartments in old castellated buildings yet remaining in England.

Proceeding towards the shore, we saw a very ancient church, of an oblong square form, to which we descended by steps, as into the church of St. Sophia at Constantinople, [and some other early Christian sanctuaries, where the entrance resembles that of a cellar, daylight being rarely admitted. There is reason to believe that this was the first place of Christian worship erected in Tiberias, and that it was constructed as early as the fourth century. The roof is of stone, and it is vaulted. We could discover no inscription, nor any other clue to its origin. The priest, whom we found officiating, was ignorant, by whom, for whom, or when, it was erected; saying only, that it was called The house of Peter, and under this name it is mentioned by former travellers.

The town of Tiberias is situate close to the edge of the lake. It is fortified by walls, but it has no artillery; and like all Turkish citadels, it makes a great figure from without, exhibiting at the same time the utmost wretchedness within. Its castle stands upon a rising ground in the north part of it. No antiquities now remain, except the building just described, and the celebrated hot baths of Emmaus, about a mile to the south of the town.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Violent and oppressive Heat of the Climate.—Picture of Arab Manners.—Remarkable Attachment of the Arabs to their Horses.—Arrival at an antique Castle of strength.—Scene of Feudal Magnificence.—Military Grandeur.—Napolese.—Its rich and varied Prospects.—Gardens and Groves.—Her Majesty proceeds to Jerusalem.—Ramla.—Her Majesty's Reception at a Convent.—An oriental Sun-rise.

ALL the pleasure of travelling, at this season of the year, in the Holy Land, is done away by the excessive heat of the sun. A traveller, wearied and spiritless, is often more subdued at the beginning than at the end of his day's journey. Many rare plants and curious minerals invite his notice, as he passes slowly along, with depressed looks fixed upon the ground; but these it is impossible for him to obtain. It appears to him to be an act of unjustifiable cruelty to ask a servant, or even one of the attending Arabs, to descend from his horse, for the purpose of collecting either the one or the other. All nature seems to droop; almost every animal seeks for shade, which it is extremely difficult to find. But the chamæleon, the lizard, the serpent, and all sorts of beetles, basking, even at noon, upon rocks and in sandy

places, exposed to the most scorching rays, seem to rejoice in the greatest heat, in which it is possible to exist. This is also the case in Egypt, where no desert is so solitary but reptiles and insects may be observed; proving that the ostrich and other birds found there, are by no means, as some writers have maintained, at a loss for food. It is more probable that the desert offers to them nourishment they could not easily procure elsewhere.

A brief account of the manners and disposition of the Arabs is both interesting and needful to the clear conception of our situation and difficulties in these journies. Their effects and wealth consist generally of cattle. The Emirs and Sheiks of the Arabs have gold and silver; but, like the Laplanders, they bury it in the earth; thus it is frequently lost, because the owner dies without acquainting his successor where he has concealed his treasure. Corn is extremely cheap among the Arabs. They pasture their cattle upon the spontaneous produce of the rich plains, with which the country abounds. Their camels require but little nourishment, existing for the most part upon small balls of meal, or the kernels of dates. The true Arab is always an inhabitant of the desert, a name given to any solitude, whether barren or fertile. Hence the appellation bestowed upon them, of Bedawi or Bedouins; for this appellation signifies nothing more than inhabitants of the desert. Their usual weapons consist of

a lance, a pogniard, an iron mace, a battle-axe, and sometimes a match-lock gun. The moveables of a whole family seldom exceed a camel's load. They reside always in tents, in the open plain, or upon the mountains. The covering of their tents is made of goats' hair, woven by their women. Their mode of life very much resembles that of the gipsies in England; men, women, children, and cattle, all lodging together. In their disposition, although naturally grave and sedate, they are very amiable; considering hospitality as a religious duty, and always acting with kindness to their slaves and inferiors. There is a dignity in their manner which is very striking; and this perhaps is owing to their serious deportment, aided by the imposing aspect of their beards. Selfishness, the vice of civilized nations, seldom degrades an Arab; and the politeness he practises is well worthy of imitation. Drunkenness and gaming, the genuine offspring of selfishness, are unknown among them. If a stranger enters one of their tents, they all rise, give him the place of honour, and never sit until their guest is accommodated. They cannot endure seeing a person spit, because it is deemed a mark of contempt; for the same reason it is an offence to blow the nose in their presence. They detest the Turks, because they consider them as usurpers of their country. The curious superstition of dreading the injurious consequences of a look, from an evil or an envious eye, is not peculiar

to the Arabs. The Turks, and many other nations, particularly the Irish, the Highlanders of Scotland, and the people of Cornwall, entertain the same notion. But the Arabs even extend it to their cattle, whom they believe liable to this fascination. To relate all that may be said concerning their other customs, particularly the delight they take in horsemanship, and the estimation in which high bred horses are held among them, would be only to repeat what has been related in a most admirable manner by a celebrated traveller, but which would swell our pages beyond the proper bounds. The remarkable address of an Arab to his mare, as delivered in his own presence, we cannot omit; and this, more eloquent than whole pages of descriptive information, presents us with a striking picture of Arabian manners. "Ibrahim," says he, "went frequently to Rama to enquire news of that mare which he dearly loved. I have many a time had the pleasure to see him weep with tenderness the while he was kissing and caressing her. He would embrace her; would wipe her eyes with his handkerchief; would rub her with his shirt sleeves; would give her a thousand benedictions, during whole hours that he would remain talking to her. 'My eyes,' would he say to her, 'my soul, my heart, must I be so unfortunate as to have thee sold to so many masters, and not to keep thee myself? I am poor, my Antelope! Thou knowest it well, my darling! I brought thee up in my dwelling, as my child;

I did never beat nor chide thee ; I caressed thee in the fondest manner. God preserve thee, my beloved ! Thou art beautiful ! Thou art sweet ! Thou art lovely ! God defend thee from envious eyes !”

At six we arrived at a small village, where we passed the night. The setting sun gave to it a beautiful appearance, as we drew nigh to the place. Here again we observed, as a fence for gardens, the Cactus Ficus Indicus, growing to such enormous size, that the stem of each plant was larger than a man's body. The wood of it is fibrous, and unfit for any other use than as fuel. The wounds which its almost imperceptible thorns inflict upon those who venture too near it, are terrible in this climate ; they are even dangerous to Europeans. Its gaudy blossoms made a most splendid show, in the midst of the weapons that surrounded them.

The hill on which the castle is situate, rises upon the south side of the valley, bounded by other hills on every side ; being about two miles in breadth, and five in length. This fortress held out against Djezzar, when he was Pasha of Damascus, and compelled him to raise the siege after two months. Having ascended to the castle, we were admitted within the gate, beneath a vaulted passage, quite dark, from its tortuous length and many windings. In the time of the crusades, it must have been impregnable ; yet is there no account of it in any author ; and certainly

it is not of later construction than the period of the holy wars. The Governor received us into a large vaulted chamber, resembling what is called the Keep, in some of our old Norman castles; which it so much resembled, that if we consider the part acted by the Normans in those wars, it is possible that this building may have owed its origin to them. A number of weapons, such as guns, pistols, sabres, and pogniards, hung round the walls. Suspended with these, were the saddles, gilded stirrups, and rich housings, belonging to the lord of the citadel. Upon the floor were couched his grey-hounds, and his hawkers stood waiting in the yard before the door of the apartment; so that every thing contributed to excite ideas of other times, and a scene of former ages seemed to be realized before our eyes. The figure of the Governor himself was not the least interesting part of the living picture. He had a long red beard, and wore a dress as distinguished by feudal magnificence and military grandeur as it is possible to imagine. He received us with the usual hospitality of his countrymen, dismissed the escort which had accompanied us from Acre, seemed proud of placing us under the protection of his peculiar soldiers, and allowed us a guard, appointed from his own troops, to ensure our safety as far as Napolose. We had some conversation with him upon the disordered state of the country, particularly of Galilee. He said, that the rebel Arabs were in great number upon all the hills

near the plain of Esdraelon ; that they were actuated, at this critical juncture, by the direst motives of revenge and despair, for the losses they had sustained in consequence of the ravages committed by Djezzar's army ; but that he believed we should not meet with any molestation in our journey to Jerusalem.

After leaving this place, our road was devious and very uneven, over a mountainous tract of country, until we came in sight of Neapolis. The view of this place much surprised us, as we had not expected to find a city of such magnitude in the road to Jerusalem. It seems to be the metropolis of a very rich and extensive country, abounding with provisions, and all the necessary articles of life, in much greater profusion than the town of Acre. White bread was exposed for sale in the streets, of a quality superior to any that is to be found elsewhere through the Levant. The Governor received and regaled us with all the magnificence of an eastern sovereign. Refreshments, of every kind known in the country, were set before us ; and when we supposed the list to be exhausted, to our very great astonishment a most sumptuous dinner was brought in. It was served in trays, which were placed upon the floor of the divan ; and there being no such articles of furniture as chairs, or even stools, we were forced to eat it after the manner of the ancients, by lying down in a reclining posture, the Governor himself setting us the example.

Nothing seemed to gratify our host more, than that any of his guests should eat heartily : and, to do him justice, every individual of the party ought to have possessed the appetite of ten hungry pilgrims, to satisfy his wishes in this respect. These traits of national character powerfully illustrate the extraordinary hospitality of the country.

There is nothing in the Holy Land finer than the view of Napolose, from the heights around it. As the traveller descends towards it from the hills, it appears luxuriantly embosomed in the most delightful and fragrant bowers ; half concealed by rich gardens, and by stately trees collected into groves, all around the bold and beautiful valley in which it stands. Trade seems to flourish among its inhabitants. Their principal employment is in making soap ; but the manufactures of the town supply a very widely extended neighbourhood, and they are carried to a great distance upon camels. In the morning after our arrival, we met caravans coming from Grand Cairo ; and noticed others reposing in the large olive plantations near the gates.

We left Napolose one hour after midnight, that we might reach Jerusalem early in the same day. We were however much deceived concerning the distance. Our guides represented the journey as a short excursion of five hours : it proved to be a most fatiguing pilgrimage of eighteen. The road was mountainous, rocky, and

full of loose stones : yet the cultivation was every where astonishing, and affording a most striking picture of human industry. The rocks and stony valleys of Judæa were entirely covered with plantations of figs, vines, and olive-trees ; not a single spot is neglected. The hills, from their bases to their summits, are overspread with gardens : all of which are free from weeds, and in the highest state of cultivation. Even the sides of the most barren mountains are rendered fertile, by being divided into terraces, like steps rising one above another, upon which soil is accumulated with astonishing labour. Among the standing crops, we noticed cotton and tobacco, millet, and in some places small fields of barley. A sight of this territory can alone convey any adequate idea of its surprising produce : in the words of a learned traveller who traversed the same tract of country, it is truly the Eden of the East, rejoicing in the abundance of its wealth. Under a wise and beneficent government, the produce of the Holy Land would exceed all calculation. Its perennial harvest ; the salubrity of its air ; its limpid springs ; its rivers, lakes, and matchless plains ; its hills and vales ; — all these, added to the serenity of its climate, prove this land to be indeed “ a field which the Lord hath blessed : God hath given it of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine.”

We now proceeded by the way of Ramla, and thence to Jerusalem.

Ramla is considered one of the best halting places for travellers to Jerusalem. The country is open and well cultivated, and the land excessively rich and fertile: the peasantry, strong healthy looking men, generally dress in a loose white frock and turban: they wear their beards, and have a dark complexion; a leathern girdle, about four inches broad, confines their frock at the waist, and contains a long Albanian knife. They were uniformly courteous, and willingly replied to any questions.

There are three villages on the road to Ramla, which are not poorer in their appearance than many we had seen in Sicily and the south of Italy: near them more pains had been taken with the cultivation. The chief trees were olive. Various villages appeared in the chain of mountains to the east and north, behind which are those where Jerusalem is situated. The road to Ramla might be passed in a carriage, and runs through ground of gentle ascent and descent. The town is beautifully situated: its minarets surmount the domes of the houses, and are intermixed with palm and cypress: the surrounding verdure, broken ground, a ruined mosque, said to be built in honour of a relation of Mahomet, combined with a large plantation of olives, formed a complete picture.

The convent to which we repaired for shelter is at the entrance of the town: it is a square, surrounded by a strong wall, capable of defence,

and intended for that purpose. The constant alarm in which its inhabitants live renders it necessary to be ready for any sudden attack. On arriving at the gateway, and before it was opened, we were reconnoitred from the top of the walls by one of the monks, and then admitted. There were at present only two Capuchins, and two Syrian Christians, as servants, inhabiting it. We were welcomed, and shown a comfortable cell. They prepared an excellent supper; and we enjoyed the luxury of a cleanly meal. The monks were both Spaniards; respectable men, but considered the Inquisition necessary, and the policy indispensable of keeping the common people in ignorance. After our refreshment we retired to the terrace of the convent, which, besides overlooking two or three small orange gardens within the walls, commanded a fine prospect of the surrounding country. The evening was delightful; not a breath of air, and the moon was at its full.

The chain of mountains that extended to the east were clearly discerned; fires and lights were scattered in the different villages. The mosques of Ramla were illuminated, on account of the Ramazan; nothing broke the silence of the place, but the hoarse voice of the Imams, which called the faithful Mahometans to prayers. I could not but carry my thoughts to past times: many of the deeds related of Samson were performed within sight of the place where I stood. It was

between Lydda and Ramla that his prowess was displayed, in the slaughter of the Philistines; and the present Ramla seems to be a corruption of Ramath Lehi, the name he gave to the place of his victory. The plains of the Philistines lay at the foot of the mountains of Inda; and I could easily picture to myself the universal destruction of the corn, vineyards, and olive-trees, which his fire-brands scattered amongst them; where no hedge nor deep ravine opposed the extension of the flames.

On the following day we set out for Jerusalem, with the same equipage as on the preceding day, two hours after midnight; after partaking of coffee prepared by one of the monks, and being amply provided with refreshments for the journey. The road lay, at first, through a lane of Indian fig-trees; when we came to a plain, and descended gently into an open country, where we were frequently met by peasants and droves of camels. We enjoyed the light of a bright moon for some time, which was succeeded by a fine twilight; and, as the last star disappeared, the sun burst forth in full splendour, attended by all the richest hues for which an oriental sun-rise is celebrated. We arrived at the foot of the chain of mountains in about two hours, which began at the village of Latroun, round which were some ruined walls. Here the sides of the valleys were cultivated, after which the road generally lay through a thicket of high brush-wood of an aromatic smell,

and the sides of the valleys were of sandy rock, with horizontal strata. We had entered the Babel-Wad, the first pass of the mountains, and arrived, in three hours, at the village called Carriat-el-Aneb, better known by the name of St. Jeremiah, where is the ruin of a handsome Christian church, now converted into a stable.

The cultivation from this valley was generally vine, planted in terraces formed on the sides by walls made of loose stones, or by the natural strata of the soil. Some of the valleys were crowned with towers, one of which was called that of Tubal.

We passed the village of Kelaun, where the peasantry welcomed our appearance with much cordiality. The umbrellas of the party became an object of great curiosity to them ; and many of us were obliged, in spite of the plague having begun to shew itself in this part of the country, to let them pass through their hands. My reward was to hear, that " the Franks were certainly very ingenious." The women did not conceal their faces ; and many of them had very good features. Here was a bridge over a water-course, that left signs of swelling considerably in the rainy season.

From hence there was little or no cultivation, though remains of it might be seen on the sides of the mountains ; these became frightfully barren, extending far and wide, and seemed to shut out Jerusalem from the rest of the world.

CHAPTER XL.

First View of the City of Jerusalem—It's extraordinary effect—Reception of the Cavalcade by the Turkish Authorities--General View of the City—A Turkish Palace—The supposed Site of the Judgement-hall in which Christ was condemned—The Holy Sepulchre—Remains of the Church in which the Body of Christ was anointed—A Column of Granite said to belong to the Palace of Pontius Pilate—Mount Calvary—An Excursion to Bethlehem—Star of Bethlehem—Site of the Holy Manger.

WE were now on the direct route to Jerusalem, and within a short distance of it. We now moved at an easy rate, and after a halt for refreshment, our cavalcade was again in motion, and at an early hour we proceeded on our route. No sensation of fatigue could counterbalance the eagerness which animated all our party, in the approach to Jerusalem; every individual pressed forward, hoping first to announce the joyful intelligence of its appearance. We passed some insignificant ruins, either of ancient buildings or of modern villages; but had they been of more importance, they would have excited little notice at the time, so earnestly bent was every mind towards the main object of interest and curiosity. At length, after about two hours had been passed in this state of anxiety and suspense, ascending a

hill towards the south, a Greek in the van of the party, suddenly exclaimed in a tone of joy and admiration, "Hagiopolis!" and instantly throwing himself from his horse, was seen upon his knees, bare-headed, facing the prospect he surveyed, and in a moment the sight burst upon us all. The first effect produced was that of silence throughout the whole company. Many of our party, by an irresistible impulse, took off their hats in an involuntary manner, as if entering a place of worship. The Greeks and Catholics shed torrents of tears; and beginning to cross themselves with unfeigned devotion, requested permission to take off the covering from their feet, and proceed barefooted to the Holy Sepulchre.

We had not been prepared for the grandeur of the spectacle which the city alone exhibited. Instead of the wretched and ruined place described by some travellers, as the desolated remnant of Jerusalem, we beheld, as it were, a flourishing and stately metropolis; presenting a stately assemblage of domes, towers, palaces, churches, and monasteries; the magnificence of which glittering in the sun's rays is inconceivable. As we drew nearer, our whole attention was engrossed by its noble appearance.

At this place, a party of Turkish officers, mounted on beautiful horses sumptuously caparisoned, came by the governor's order, who had intelligence of our approach, to escort us into the city. When they arrived, we were all assembled

upon an eminence, admiring the splendid appearance of Jerusalem; and being impressed with other ideas than those of a vain ostentation, would gladly have declined the parade, together with the interruption caused by a public entry. This was, however, said to be unavoidable; it was described as a necessary mark of respect due to the protection under which we travelled; as well as of consequence to our future safety.

Her Majesty being too much fatigued by the journey to wish to begin any visits to the objects of curiosity, we contented ourselves with enjoying the beautiful prospect presented from the terraces of the buildings, from which the most interesting points of Jerusalem and its neighbourhood are to be distinguished: they are as follows. Within the walls, the two cupolas of the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the church of Anne the mother of Mary, both nearly underneath the convent; beyond, at a short distance, stands the mosque of Solomon, on the site of the ancient temple. The tower and mosque of David on the right, in front, outside the walls, exactly facing the terrace. The Mount of Olives is situated on the east side of the valley of Siloe, which is at the foot of the walls. The quarries, where is the grotto of Jeremiah, are at the north-east. The mountains, beyond the Dead Sea, are to the south; to the south-east are the hills, concealing Bethlehem from the view. On the north is an olive wood, beyond which are the tombs of the Judges. The view to

the rear is impeded by the buildings of the convent, and confined to a part of the plain on the road to Jaffa, outside the gate of Sham.

The interest raised by the scene before us was not easily lost, it being impossible to avoid having the most serious reflections on contemplating it. Towards sun-set the air became surprisingly cool, and had the singular effect of frost on the breath. I was surprised at the sudden change, and was compelled to leave the terrace; when, soon after a plentiful dinner, wine of Bethlehem, resembling rough cyder, was served in our apartments; at the conclusion of which, we had a visit from the monks.

We were attended by the dragoman of the convent, on the following morning, the 30th, to the Aga. His residence is in that part of the town where was said to be the house of Pontius Pilate. The windows of his divan looked to the Esplanade, in which stood the mosque of Solomon, whence we had an opportunity of observing accurately this celebrated edifice, previous to the arrival of the Aga. The body is an octagonal building of beautiful proportions, with a gently sloping roof, from the centre of which rises a circular building, crowned with a dome covered with lead, and surmounted by the crescent. It stands in an open space of ground enclosed by walls, in which at distances are saracenic arches, connected by slight pillars; through these are the entrances, by a low flight of steps, from the exterior to the

interior space, which may be about two hundred yards square. A colonnade of pillars, adding much to the picturesque appearance of the building, connects two handsome mosque-like edifices to the east and west sides of the octagon.

The exterior space is about three hundred yards square, in which are cypress and olive-trees. A small monument, of saracenic architecture, whose history I could not learn, stands on the north-west corner of the inner space. In each side of the octagonal body of the mosque are seven arched windows; the space between them and the roof is variegated in the style of mosaic. The walls of the city enclose the south and east sides of the outer square; the west and south boundaries of the inner square, are small quadrangular houses with arched roofs, and are joined to the saracenic arches above mentioned.

The visits of ceremony paid by Franks to Turkish chiefs have little variety: conversations held through an interpreter are irksome. One is soon weary of the dulness of a formal interview. The Aga listened to the firman with great respect, bowed at the commands of the grand Signor, offered us every assistance in his power, insisted on our using his horses whilst we remained at Jerusalem, gave us an order to see the Holy Sepulchre; and, on my complaining that we had been stopped at St. Jeremiah by the chief of the village, who went by the name of Abou Gosh, in spite of my having a firman, he promised that

not only it should not happen on my return, but that he would have the chief brought to Jerusalem to make an ample apology.

The manners of the Aga, whose name was Abdel Kareem, had been formed in the Seraglio at Constantinople, whence he had been sent direct to his government of Jerusalem. He had all the polish of a court; smiled, bowed, and seemed to weigh his words and conduct, like a well-bred courtier. His physiognomy struck me as being different from other Turks I had seen, having a red beard and eyebrows, with sandy complexion.

Within the limits of the Aga's seraglio or palace, are said to be the place of confinement and Judgement-Hall of our Saviour, the spot where he was scourged, that in which the cross was kept before it was used for the crucifixion, and where it was left by the Empress Helena after she found it on Mount Calvary.

On the road from the palace to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the dragoman pointed to three impressions in the rocky part of the ground, which he said were the marks of our Saviour's knees when he fell with the cross.

As the porters of the Holy Sepulchre, who are Imams appointed from Constantinople, were not to be found, we visited the ruined church of St. Anne, said to be built on the spot where the mother of the Virgin Mary lived, and where the latter was born; close to it is the shell of three Saracenic windows, part of a church built in

memory of the spot were Anne and Mary wept at the crucifixion of our Saviour. From this we went to the castle built on Mount Sion, near which is the mosque of David, whose tomb is supposed to be there, the veneration for which is equal to that for the mosque of Solomon; and no christian is allowed to visit either.

We found, on our return to the church of the Sepulchre, that we had still to wait for the arrival of one of the three porters, and the presence of all three was required before the gates could be opened.

The form of the body of the church of the Holy Sepulchre is circular, over which is a heavy cupola. In the body of the church are entrances to the three chapels of the Greeks, Armenians, and Latins, and to the cells of the monks who are kept there for the service of the church. The chapels are fitted up in the style of the sect to which they belong; the Greeks and Armenians with pictures, the Latins with images. In the centre rises an oblong building of wood, of twenty feet in length by ten in breadth, in which is a cupola, open at the top. One half of this contains the Sepulchre of our Saviour, the other is fitted up for the chapel of the Copts. A small space enclosed by low railings surrounds the entrance to the Sepulchre. I confess, I had been prepared to see something like a tomb, and was rather disappointed, on entering, to find myself in a mean chapel, where the altar, of plain white

marble, occupied a space of six feet in length, two in breadth, and in depth about two feet and a half, leaving only room in front of it to kneel. It covers, according to the tradition of the place, the tomb of our Saviour, of whom a miserable picture is hung on the tapestry over the altar; this is lighted by forty-five silver lamps, suspended in six rows from the cupola. I followed the example of my guide, in kissing the altar, kneeling, and bowing my head over it.

From the sepulchre we were led to a flat stone, of six feet in length and three in breadth, forming part of the pavement of the body of the church, where our Saviour's body was anointed after it was taken from the cross: near which were the tombs of Godfrey and Baldwin, two of the sovereigns of Jerusalem during the crusades: they are now enclosed and concealed from view within the wall; their existence and appearance not being interesting to the Armenians, who new-modelled the church, as will hereafter be explained.

The attempt to bring every thing connected with the crucifixion of our Saviour under the same roof surprised me. In one part of the church is an elevated piece of rock, enclosed in a sort of chapel, in which the crucifixion took place: three small square pieces of marble, in the centre of each of which is a hole, mark the spot where the crosses of our Saviour and the malefactors were fixed; and in another, close to this, is a

chapel, dedicated to the place where the ceremony of nailing to the cross was performed: underneath is an excavation, where St. Helena found the cross; and a little farther off is the tomb of Nicodemus the Jew, who is mentioned in St. John, chap. 3; but by what authority he is buried here, I do not know.

To complete the show, a fragment of a granite column, about two feet high, said to be taken from the palace of Pontius Pilate, and described as the pillar to which our Saviour was attached when he was scourged, is placed in another chapel. But I will not tire the reader by dwelling longer on the relics of this church, which are made the objects of contention between the different sects, and are by turns possessed, as each happens to have the means of purchase from the Turkish chiefs, who of course are anxious that such contests should occur.

The exterior front of the Holy Sepulchre is almost entirely closed up, not more than sixty feet being exposed to view: a single gateway of Gothic or Saracenic architecture forms the entrance, over which is one window; a paved court in front, of small dimensions, separates it from the street, kept sacred to Mussulmen and Christians, no Jew being allowed to pass the church, which is said to stand on Mount Calvary.

On the following day, the 31st, we were provided with horses by the Aga; and, attended by some of the dragomans, and a guard of Janissaries,

set out on an excursion to Bethlehem. We left the town by the gate of that name, crossed the valley, supposed of Jehoshaphat, and ascended into the plain southward of the city, on which are several square towers in ruin, described as existing in the time of the crusades. The road then lay through a ravine, where is a pile of loose stones: this the chief dragoman pointed out to us as the spot where the star first appeared to the magi, and continued flitting before them, like an ignis fatuus, till they came to Bethlehem. We proceeded through a rugged and broken country, in which a few wild olives grew, and arrived at the convent of Elias, inhabited by two or three Greek monks. A tree, on the right hand side of the road opposite to the convent, is still venerated as that under which the Prophet lay. In proof is shewn an impression made in the rock by his body, and miraculously preserved. From this, Bethlehem, situated on the top of a steep hill, is first seen; on the east of which stands the convent, built over the birth-place of our Saviour. It has the appearance of a fort, was distant about an hour, and from Jerusalem more than two hours.

As we advanced, I observed, in a valley, at some distance on the left, a small stone building in an enclosure of trees, which was pointed out to me as the grotto where the shepherds were foretold the coming of the Messiah. On our arrival at the foot of the hill of Bethlehem, we ascended a tolerable road, by the side of which were gardens and vineyards; then, having passed

through the narrow streets of the village, arrived at the convent; where the precautions I had taken to avoid contact with the inhabitants, whose village was infected strongly with the plague, were rendered useless. A crowd of peasantry was assembled to celebrate a marriage. At any other time it would have been amusing to have observed the gala dresses and rejoicings of the party: I felt I could now have dispensed with them. The females were chiefly girls, dressed in a profusion of coloured garments, with uncovered faces, displaying great beauty, and features not entirely Syrian: scandal accounts for this by the numerous strangers who visit Bethlehem during the holy week. They ceased their concert of voices, accompanied with clapping of hands and quick motion of their bodies, on my arrival. I was immediately surrounded by the men, and it was with difficulty I could prevail on them to keep their distance. Several of them addressed me in Italian. Their chief made himself known to me, when I requested his interference, which he exerted in my favour. He prepared to accompany me in a further excursion into the country. I entered the convent. It was necessary to proceed with caution, in a place within whose walls a monk had died of the plague only a few days before; but I found this impossible. The church, forming part of it, and containing the supposed manger, was filled with people, and matted. I was a Frank and a stranger, was followed and

surrounded. Having proceeded so far, it would have shown too much fear to withdraw, without seeing the object of my visit ; accordingly, I continued in the church, and viewed all that it contained. The most sacred spots are two grottos under ground, fitted up as chapels ; these are so damp that water drops from the walls—very unsuitable for the reception of cattle, much less for a woman in child-birth. I descended into them by a small flight of steps. They were lighted with rich silver lamps, the offerings of France, Spain, Sardinia, and Naples ; one of the grottos was called the place of birth of our Saviour ; the other that of ablution, where he was taken when born.

The church is the joint property of the Latins, Greeks, and Armenians, who have monks residing in the convent for its service. I accepted refreshments from the Latin priests, who were resigned to their perilous state.

On leaving the convent we were joined by the chief of the village, who informed us he was a Christian, and that three parts of the inhabitants were Christians, the rest Mahometans ; and that the chief employment of the inhabitants was that of making beads, rosaries, crucifixes, and relics, for the pilgrims and for the different convents, who exported great quantities to Europe, having first consecrated them on the altar of the sepulchre.

Having descended the hill of Bethlehem towards the south, and wound through a long narrow

valley, barren and rocky ; we in two hours arrived at the cisterns of Solomon, supposed to be near the gardens of Rehoboam. There were three, one above the other, in the ascent of a barren stony valley that crossed the one in which we were ; the first, nearest the entrance of the valley, is the largest, and may be about three hundred feet long, and two hundred wide ; the greatest depth at the lowest part is about thirty feet : the remaining two are smaller ; the centre one less than the third. They are empty, and are constructed with masonry.

From this place there is an aqueduct to Bethlehem, carrying water from a fountain close to the road : the communication with Jerusalem, which the aqueduct once had, is now cut off. Hence we took an eastern direction down another valley, which afforded pasture to some cattle ; in the sides were caverns, with very small entrances, into which the Arabs retire when overtaken by the hot winds. In an hour we came to a hamlet where there was cultivation, and obtained refreshments of grapes and fruit, under the shade of a fig-tree ; we then continued, by a succession of valleys, to the spot where the angel appeared to the shepherds to announce our Saviour's birth. It was a grotto under ground, to which was a descent by steps ; excessively cold ; containing an altar of stone, where mass is performed once during Easter. The enclosure in which it is, consists of a plantation of olives.

CHAPTER XLI.

Leave Bethlehem.—The Valley of Jehoshaphat.—The Field of Blood.—Ancient Monuments.—Tomb of Isaiah.—Bethany.—Place of the Ascension.—Venerated Impression of the Feet of Christ.—Tombs of Joseph, James, Anne, and the Virgin Mary.—Army of the Pacha of Damascus.—Particular Description of Jerusalem.

ON the following morning, being again furnished with horses by the Aga, we left the town by the gate of Bethlehem, and descended into the valley of Jehoshaphat, in whose sides are sepulchral excavations. We continued under the walls of the town, and turned to the north to enter the valley of Siloe, whose brook flows beneath the modern walls at the foot of the Mount of Olives.

The field of blood, now called “Akel Forar,” or, “the field of jars or pottery;” the spot where the Jews counselled against Christ; the well of Nehemiah; and the miraculous impression of our Saviour’s hands, shown on the rock, which tradition ascribes to his fall when the multitude precipitated him down the valley; were here pointed out to us.

The ancient monuments of the district are

highly worthy of attention. The first, at the head of the valley of Siloe, is said to be the tomb of Zachariah. This is a square building cut out of the rock, by which it is surrounded on three of its sides; they are about ten feet each: the height of the monument is about fourteen feet, surmounted by an entablature and cornice, included in the height above named; and on which is a pyramidal roof, terminated by a cylindrical top: at each angle of the sides of the tomb are two Ionic pilasters, and, in the centre of the walls, two columns of the same order. It is without any entrance.

The name of Isaiah is attached to a second monument, of nearly the same dimensions and architecture, except that the roof is a cupola surmounted by a cube.

In the space between the above monuments is an excavation in the rock, having a facade like that of the portico of a Greek temple, consisting of two Ionic columns in the centre; on each side of which are pilasters of the same order, completing the front. On entering are several chambers excavated in the rock, communicating with each other; the legend attached to them is, that the disciples hid themselves here on the crucifixion of our Saviour.

Close to the tomb of Isaiah is the pediment of another excavation above the ground; in the entablature is a wreath of foliage of great beauty of design and execution, in full relief. From these

monuments of doubtful antiquity we passed several others, whose Hebrew inscriptions proved to whom they were dedicated; and began to ascend the Mount of Olives. At the south end, near its summit, stands the village of Bethany, now called Aizarree: said still to possess the tomb of Lazarus. We were conducted to a subterraneous grotto, containing an altar, where mass is sometimes celebrated, said to be the place where our Saviour performed the miracle of raising him from the dead.

From the summit of the Mount of Olives there is a fine view of part of the Dead Sea, and the mountains surrounding it.

Having passed the spot where our Saviour mounted the ass to enter Jerusalem, and which is still commemorated in the person of the guardian or superior of the Latin convent during the ceremonies of the holy week, we arrived at the place of the ascension. A small mosque encloses the spot. It is open to Christians and Turks, but appears neglected by both; yet the impression of our Saviour's feet, preserved from being profaned by the tread of human feet by a low enclosure of stone of three or four inches high, is still kissed and revered by all pilgrims.

Having paid a small sum, by way of present, to the Turk who dwelt near the mosque of ascension, we descended to the tombs of Joseph, James, Anne, and Mary the mother of Jesus. These are all contained in a subterraneous chapel

of tolerable size ; to this a broad and numerous flight of steps leads, worthy of admiration, even in more civilized countries. The tombs are in recesses to the right and left, large enough to admit of altars, where mass is celebrated. The altars are the supposed sarcophagi of the deceased. The spot where our Saviour's passion took place is here ; it is a grotto fitted up as a chapel.

On our return to Jerusalem from this excursion, when near the walls, we had the good fortune to see the ceremony of the arrival of the army of the Pasha of Damascus, on its way to conduct the Pilgrims to Mecca.

We were highly interested by the variety of costume and banners, by the motley groupes of figures composing the army, and by all the barbarous pomp of Eastern manners. Cavalry preceded music, consisting of pipes, kettle-drums, and trumpets, played by men on horseback, who seemed to vie with each other in attempts at discordance ; white, red, and green banners waved before the representative of the Pasha of Damascus, whom business prevented from being present ; the main body of the army, chiefly of cavalry, followed ; these discharged their firelocks at pleasure, and kept up an irregular fire on the march. In the cavalry that preceded the main body, there was a detachment of dromedaries, on whose backs was attached a small swivel, each served by a topgee or artillery-man, mounted by

it. The singularity of such an apparatus may be easily imagined. A band of prisoners, part of the capture mentioned in the preceding pages, was marched in chains at the head of the procession; during which there was a mock combat between two men dressed as savages, naked to the waist, and armed with sword and shield.

The procession was met under the walls of Jerusalem by the heads of the different convents, who made their obeisances to the chief: salutes were fired from the ramparts of the citadel; and the walls were crowded with spectators. The army was encamped outside the walls, in front of the gates of Bethlehem and Damascus.

What has been already said of this remarkable and interesting city, in the foregoing narrative, is necessarily rather in the manner of a journal of Her Majesty's journeys of observation, and proceedings during her stay in it, than a geographical and particular account of its locality, peculiarities, and actual present condition; and as we were now approaching the time of Her Majesty's departure on her return, I shall make a succinct statement of those particulars, and then proceed to narrate our progress in returning to Jaffa, our point of embarkation for Italy.

Jerusalem, known to the natives of Syria by the appellation of the Sacred City, stands on the west side of a valley, of which the east is the Mount of Olives. It contains within its walls several of the hills on which the ancient city was

supposed to have stood ; these are however only perceptible by the ascent and descent of the streets.

The town, viewed from the Mount of Olives, appears to lie on the inclined plain of the side of the valley on which it stands, having all its principal buildings exposed to sight in an oblong inclosure by walls. The streets are narrow, and without pavement ; the houses are seen to most advantage from the hills about the town, whence the cupolas give even an air of grandeur to them. The only bazar is of mean appearance ; and there appears to be little commerce, except in relics and rosaries.

The population is composed in its largest proportion of Mussulmen : the greatest of one sect are Jews : the rest are composed of Christians of the east, belonging either to the Armenian, Greek, Latin, or Coptish sects. Of these the Armenians are the richest ; are said to intrigue most with the Turks ; and, from their money, gradually get possession of the holy places originally in the hands of the Latin monks. They at one time professed obedience to the Pope, and were therefore allowed to have a chapel in the Holy Sepulchre ; afterwards, when they were wealthy enough to set up for themselves, they abjured their allegiance to the Pope, and became more violent against the Latins than the Greeks. About four or five years before my arrival, the church of the Holy Sepulchre was burnt down ; an accident charged

by some to the Armenians, who knew that none of the other sects had money enough to rebuild it; whilst they, having the command of money, might make what terms they pleased, and obtain what portion of the holy places they chose; and thus, from the visits of pilgrims, have good interest for their capital.

The Latins and Greeks were violent in their antipathy to the Armenians: in this they were united, but in all other respects took equal advantage of their interest with the Turks to repress each other's influence. The church of the Armenians is said to stand on the place where St. James was beheaded. When we visited it, the monks were at prayers; their black cowls and robes, and long silvery beards, had a most melancholy aspect. On the opposite side stood the nuns of their sect; they differed in dress from the monks by wearing white cowls.

The convent of Greeks appeared not so large an establishment as that of the Armenians or Latins. The reverence with which the guardian was treated was more abject than I had imagined: my Greek servant, on entering the room in which he sat, prostrated himself on the ground at the door, crawled on his hands and knees to the divan where he sat, kissed his hand, and then retired backwards in the same way.

The absolution given by the Greek religion to pilgrims, is so ample, that no catalogue of sins is without its price.

The Jews have many Synagogues, but very small, and more filthy than those I have seen in other parts of the East. Although they are oppressed and treated with more contempt at Jerusalem than elsewhere, they still flock to it. To sleep in Abraham's bosom is the wish of the old; the young visit it in the hopes of the coming of the Messiah; some are content to remain, for the commerce they carry on.

They pay a heavy tax to the Turkish governor at Jerusalem. The sums to the Aga of Jaffa when they land, and to the chief of St. Jeremiah for safe conduct, produce a large revenue to both. The Jewish quarter, as in all Eastern towns, is separate from the rest. I found men from all nations, except England.

The government of Jerusalem rests in the Aga, appointed by the Pasha of Damascus; and a mufti, appointed by the Porte, who unites the two offices of cadi and chief of the region in one. The emoluments arising from his office are so great, that he only remains a year, when he is succeeded by another. The convents contribute largely to the support of these offices. Besides the sums advanced to the Aga, and Mufti, the convents are obliged to make the Pasha of Damascus an annual present, on the arrival of his army, on its way to Mecca. The amount depends on his pleasure, and is announced on the first visit of ceremony paid by the treasurer, on his arrival.

CHAPTER XLII.

Description of Jerusalem continued.—Mahometan Superstitions.—Mosques.—Singular Ablution of the Holy Temple by Saladin.—The Walls of Jerusalem.—Present depopulated state of the City.—Sepulchres of the Kings.—Bazars.—Trade.—Christian Females.—Climate of Jerusalem.—Its Manufactures.

THE streets of Jerusalem are crooked and badly paved; and the houses, which are for the greater part built of free-stone, are indebted in general for a scanty portion of light to a small door and one or two windows provided with wooden lattices. In a few paltry shops, olives, fruits brought from Damascus, rice, corn, and a scanty supply of dried leguminous plants, are sold; while groups of Arabs, dying with hunger, eagerly survey these stores, the Turkish dealer smokes his pipe with indifference, as if utterly regardless of his profits.

The convent of the reverend fathers, missionaries of the Holy Land, being situated in the most elevated part of the city, we had to descend, by a flight of steep steps, into the decayed vaults of Souq el-Nassara, to reach the site of the Holy Sepulchre. The façade of this monument is a mixture of the moresque and gothic styles of ar-

chitecture: a square tower, deprived of its steeples, and levelled to the height of the church, has been thus mutilated since the epoch when the Turks regained the possession of Jerusalem. It was on a festival; the doors were thrown open; and pilgrims thronged either to enter or pass out. Turks, in the interim, squatted on a divan, mercilessly exacted the entrance-tribute: the ear was deafened by importunate cries, and blows were struck; while the crowd mingled with the processions as they crossed each other: the ensemble presented a tumultuous and afflicting spectacle.

The church of the Holy Sepulchre has been already described; the plan of the edifice is so irregular, that it requires a considerable time to know the distribution of the parts.

The cupola, built of stone cemented with stucco, and open like that of the Pantheon at Rome, is supported by six pilasters, each separated by an arcade, which forms a circular gallery, divided between the different communions admitted into this basilick.

The Holy Sepulchre itself is a low marble altar, seven feet in length, and two and a half in breadth, enclosed in a small square chapel built of marble, lighted by rich and magnificent lamps, and entirely covered by hangings of velvet. A painting within, above the sacred stone, represents the triumph of Christ over death. It is impossible not to feel a profound emotion, not to be im-

pressed with a religious awe, on seeing this humble tomb, the possession of which has given rise to more disputes than that of the finest earthly thrones; of this tomb the power of which has survived empires, which had been so often bedewed with the tears of repentance and of hope, and from which the most ardent supplications daily ascend to heaven. In this mysterious tabernacle, before this altar of perfumes, to which our attention has been directed from our earliest infancy, we feel an irresistible influence—an overpowering delight. This is the land promised by the prophets, and guarded by angels, to which the tiara of Constantine, and the brilliant helmet of Tancred, did homage.

We quitted the chapel, and spent an hour in visiting the different stations, which the Italian monks who accompanied me explained. By several lateral naves, beneath lofty vaults supported by columns of an order of architecture unknown to the moderns, we proceeded, sometimes amid the glare of thousands of lamps, and at others feebly aided by the uncertain light let in by small glazed windows. “Here,” said my conductors, “Christ was scourged; here,” proceeding onward, “his head was invested with the crown of thorns;” and, still farther, “here lots were drawn for his garments.” Having ascended by a flight of steps winding spirally round an enormous pillar, we entered another church, on the pavement of which they imprinted kisses: it was Golgotha.

A monk, who was still busied in reciting his prayers, pointed to a gate through which the cleft in the rock where our Saviour's cross was fixed was to be seen. "Here," said he, "is the place where opprobrium and sorrow aided death to consummate the triumph of sin. Here was committed the crime which dismayed the heavens, scared the sepulchres, and shook the remotest foundations of the earth."

Christians of Coptos, of Yemen, and of Abyssinia, were there seen prostrated at the side of the pilgrim of Tobolsk, of Novogorod, or of Teflis.

In quitting the Holy Sepulchre, and following the route of Mount Calvary, pilgrims repair to what is called the palace of Pilate: this is a large fabric, surmounted by a tower, and evidently bears, in its detail, the character of saracenic architecture. We were permitted to ascend to a high terrace, where we descried the immense space formerly occupied by the temple of Solomon: on its site are two mosques, distinguished by the Arabs by the names of el-Harem el-Mogaddes, and Djami el-Hadrar.

The Turks believe that Mahomet descended from heaven to bless these mosques; and that he visited Jerusalem, mounted on his mare, el-Boraq, which is an angel with the body of a winged horse, and the face of a woman; and that the prophet is to return to Jerusalem on the day of

the last Judgement, accompanied by Christ, and that he will stride over the valley of Jehoshaphat, with one of his feet placed on the temple, and the other on the Mount of Olives ; that his robe will be formed of the skin of a young camel ; and that the souls of the Just will nestle in it like so many insects ; and as soon as Mahomet perceives, by the weight of his garment, that the souls of all the true believers have sheltered themselves beneath his wings, he will take his flight towards the ethereal expanse.

I find this description feeble, when I recollect the magical effect of the light on these edifices, so varied in the colour of their ornaments, and so elegant in their details. A plain of turf, overspread with fountains, tombs, and palms, envelops this marble platform : its reverberated light is blended with the lustre of the enamel and gold with which the mosques are covered. To the west, behind the ramparts, and beyond the torrent of Cedron, the Mount of Olives terminates in the hamlet of Siloan : beyond, in a landscape embellished by the illusion of a brilliant and gilt vapour, are to be seen the hills of Bethlehem, the Dead Sea, and the mountains of Arabia.

If it were possible to search at this time for the venerable remains of Hebraic antiquity, to what discoveries might not such an enquiry lead in a land enriched by the destruction of so many immense monuments !

The present mosques, built by Omar, felt the dreadful vengeance of the Crusaders. Saladin, to purify the temple from this religious stain, had the pavements and walls washed, when he made himself master of Jerusalem, in 1188. Five hundred camels, it is said, scarcely sufficed to bring from Yemen the prodigious quantity of *rose-water* employed in this lustral ceremony.

Some of our party made an excursion to walk round the walls of Jerusalem: it is said that this city has a circumference of four thousand five hundred paces. The gate of Sion, and the Sterquilinary gate lie to the south, as does likewise that of Naby Daoud. The Roman architecture of the gilt gate Bab el-Dahrié, which has for a long time been filled up with stone, is apparently of Hadrian's time. The Christians of Syria are persuaded that Christ made his entry into Jerusalem by this gate, for which they have a great veneration. Bab el-Sbal, situated to the east, leads, as well as Bab el-Dahrié, to the valley of Jehoshaphat. The gate of Damascus, Bab el-Amoud, stationed to the north, is the one the form of which appeared to us the most romantic, and most picturesque. Lastly, to the west, is the gate of Ephraim, together with that of Bethlehem, or the well-beloved, Bab el-Khalyl. The walls are high, battlemented, and provided with square towers at small distances. Godfrey of Bouillon took Jerusalem by assault on the 12th of July

1099, at three in the afternoon, on the side of the gate of Damascus. This is still the part of the ramparts the easiest of attack : Jerusalem would with difficulty hold out a few days against the weakest modern battery erected above the grotto of Jeremiah.

Jerusalem, in Arabic el-Quods, (the holy) is situated between two hills, Acra and Moria. When Hadrian rebuilt the city, Mount Calvary was enclosed within the ramparts. Golgotha is a point of the hill of Moria, so inconsiderable, that it is entirely locked in the principal nave of the church of the Holy Sepulchre. It is thought that Jerusalem still contains twenty-five thousand inhabitants, Arabs, Turks, Jews, and Armenians : and not more than two hundred Christian families are to be found in it. The compass of the city would easily contain six times that number of inhabitants ; and, accordingly, great part of its steep and unpaved streets are without inhabitants : spacious houses, churches, and monasteries, have been entirely abandoned.

We frequently passed over these deserted spots, and had to force our way through thickets, brambles, and the stems of the prickly pear. Ivy creeps along the walls, and the aloes grow in security on the terraces, and in the fissures of the steeples. The palm, neglected in the gardens, shoots up to the loftiest cornices : and its fruit, which no one gathers, becomes the food of the solitary bird.





I have frequently passed several hours seated on the summit of a terrace, of a tower, or of a minaret, dejected at the sight of this terrible desolation.—

“Is this the city that men call the perfection of beauty, the joy of the whole earth?”——*Lamentations of Jeremiah.*

We left Jerusalem by the gate of Ephraim, to visit the sepulchres of the kings. These are situated two miles from the city, in a quarry of thirty feet in depth, of square form, and divided into two courts by a rock in the form of a wall, which appeared to be from four to five feet in thickness: the entrance into the second court is by a round gate, so low, that it is necessary to stoop exceedingly to pass through it. The four sides of this quarry are hewn perpendicularly; an opening, of eight feet in height, and about thirty in length, made in one of them, passes eight feet into the rock. The left side of this artificial cavern has so narrow a door, that the first chamber cannot be entered without creeping: this chamber, which is small, is followed by three others, each of which has a projecting tablet, on which the embalmed bodies were laid. The doors by which these sepulchres were shut, were of stone, as were likewise their hinges, which were skilfully wrought. A large serpent, and some enormous bats, were all we met with in this dismal place. At the entrance of the vault is to be seen an elegant frieze, in the finest taste, sculp-

tured in the rock. History does not throw any light on the date of this monument; but the sculptures of the pediment may have belonged to the epoch when Herod the Great governed Judea. The sepulchres of the judges are at some distance from those of the kings. The ruins of several cisterns prove that an attempt was formerly made to cultivate the steril space by which they are separated: the naked rock is almost every where to be seen, with olives of a feeble growth in its clefts, surrounded by brambles and thorns which crowd upon them, as if angry that their inheritance should be thus usurped.

Jerusalem is the city of tombs; the valleys of Halcedoma and Jehoshaphat are covered with them; and the living appear to have no other task assigned to them than that of keeping watch over these deposits of ashes. The rocks are all excavated to receive bones, and the sides of the mountains incumbered with sepulchral stones: mysterious inscriptions protect from the efforts of time the memorial of those whose remembrance was so soon effaced in the heart of man. Such are these places of lamentations—these vales of tears—these vast repositories of death.

The bazars of Jerusalem, in which a few merchants and manufacturers are still to be found, are vaulted and spacious: every thing about them announces that, instead of having been occupied, as they are at present, by timid and needy in-

JERUSALEM, FROM THE VALLEY OF JEHOSAPHEAT.





mates, these magazines were formerly the residence of those Asiatic merchants, who traded in the perfumes of Arabia, in the pearls of the Ganges, and in the tissues of Lahor. Long rows of camels press forward beneath the arch-roofs; the assembled groups make way for them; the leader of the caravan, wrapped in his gilabias, a large mantle striped with black and white, and mounted on the favourite dromedary, laying his right hand on his breast, salutes the passers by; the latter answer his salutation; and while they propound questions to him, the dervish bestows his benediction on the traveller who prostrates himself before him.

The Christian females of Jerusalem never go abroad without being wrapped in a black mantle: the most aged and tottering are scrupulous on this head; and it is inconceivable how they can make their way, with such an encumbrance, in streets so narrow and badly paved. It is by favour that strangers find admission to a Christian family, where they see the women with the face uncovered, and receive from them the coffee, the rose-water, and the pipe which they fill with aloes, and which, having lighted, they gracefully present to them.

Nothing can be more gloomy and dismal than Jerusalem, when the north wind, pregnant with showers, whistles through the battlements of the ramparts, is ingulfed in the deserted streets, or

groans in the cloisters and corridors of the convent.

The climate of Jerusalem is frequently rigorous during winter, and even snow sometimes falls. The sword of Godfrey of Bouillon, the last relic that was shown us, was not one we respected the least.

The manufactures of Jerusalem may be considered to consist wholly of beads, crosses, shells, &c. which are vended by Armenians and Jews: the shells are of the kind we call mother-of-pearl, ingeniously sculptured, and formed into various shapes. Those of the most perfect and the largest size, are formed into clasps for the zones of the Greek women. Such clasps are worn by the ladies of Cyprus, Crete, Rhodes, and the islands of the Archipelago. These after being purchased are taken to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, where they receive a sort of benediction: as the beads and crosses, purchased at Loretto in Italy for amulets are placed in a wooden bowl belonging to the house of the Virgin Mary, for consecration. The beads are here manufactured, either from date-stones, or from a very hard wood called "Mecca fruit:" when first wrought, this appears of the colour of box, and is afterwards dyed red, black, or yellow. The beads are of various sizes, and are strung as rosaries. The custom of carrying such strings of beads in the hand is very ancient, and is general

among men of rank, all over the east. The Turks call a string of ninety-nine beads, Tespy. This number of beads corresponds with their number of the attributes of the deity. Hamid Ali, a late vizier, wore one of pearl, valued at three hundred pounds sterling.

The following is an account of the manner in which the Tespy is used. "It consists of ninety-nine beads, with a partition between every thirty-three: these they turn over; and for every division of thirty-three, they repeat a distinct and short pious ejaculation."

CHAPTER. XLIII.

Her Majesty makes a Journey to Jericho.—Escort.—Dismal Approach.—Its present miserable State.—Sacred Relics.—Women of Jericho.—Plant from which the Crown of Thorns was formed.—The River Jordan.—Dead Sea.—Pillar of Salt.—Site of Sodom and Gomorrha.—A Monastery.—Her Majesty's munificent Donations in Jerusalem.—Institution of the Royal Order of Knighthood of St. Caroline of Jerusalem.

ON the 15th Her Majesty departed for Jericho. The road being very perilous from banditti, the Bey furnished Her Majesty an escort of two hundred soldiers, of whom the chief, as we were afterwards informed, had been condemned to death a year before, as the chief of a band of robbers. If we had cause of alarm, it was therefore from our trusty chief himself and the soldiers, by whom we were surrounded. They certainly had but little of military appearance, but more the air of fugitives from the galleys. One was armed with a gun, another a club, another a bar of iron, and a fourth a sort of fork as a weapon. Neither was their dress more uniform, and themselves exactly the colour of the chesnut. On their head they wore a small and dirty turban,

and the rest of their dress was equally unseemly. Such were the men under whose protection, in profound darkness, we accomplished this journey in the deserts of Palestine ; in the midst of frightful precipices, and on a road, known by us to be infested with robbers, and on which no dwelling was visible. Notwithstanding all this, Her Majesty's firmness did not appear to be for a moment shaken ; nor, such is the importance of example, was it till they were past that we reflected on the perils to which we had been exposed.

In our way hither, having entered a narrow valley, we followed the bed of a torrent, which, after several windings, leads to Mount Adomim : this is a reddish and argillaceous hill, uncultivated, like the ground we had hitherto trodden, and having on its summit the ruins of a monastery, or, perhaps, of a khan. After having halted for half an hour, we entered ravines, almost impassable, which appeared to be the effects of a recent convulsion of nature. White mountains, which could not be more aptly compared than to the solfatara of Naples, were to be seen furrowed by fire, and marked with the stains of sulphur. After having descended into frightful abysses, we were obliged to climb up sharp rocks, to procure a sight of the plain of Jericho, which we shortly after reached.

Jericho is at present nothing more than an assemblage of huts built of earth and reeds, covered over with a species of dried fern. Where

its celebrated walls once stood, fagots of briers and thistles now scarcely suffice to defend the flocks against the frequent attacks of wild beasts. The Aga inhabits a square tower, in so ruinous a condition, that we found considerable difficulty in ascending to the apartment in which he was lodged. This chief of the spahis selected for our night's lodging the most convenient place he could find ; for we could not endure the filth and bad smells of the habitation in which our caravan was assembled. Our people took their stations around a large fire in the open air.

On the route we passed the house in which Christ is said to have raised Lazarus from the dead ; the tree on which Absalom, the son of David, was caught by his hair ; the potters field, bought with the money which Judas had taken as the price of betraying his master ; the cave in which the prophet Jeremiah wrote his book ; and many other objects of venerable regard.

We were stirring before day-break : the sun rose behind the mountains of Arabia Deserta : their form was lost in a silvery, changeable vapour, shadowed with the richest tints, and the most beautiful colours.

Jericho is situated in a plain. On the right appears the Dead Sea, partly concealed by the promontory of Segor. The Jordan is seen in the distance on the left, between hillocks covered with briers. Behind us were the mountains we had just passed, and the disorder and soli-

tude of which made so lively an impression on us.

The women of Jericho are dressed in a blue chemise, fastened by a girdle; their head is covered by a veil. Their legs and feet are naked, as are likewise their arms, which are ornamented with bracelets of silver, pewter, or glass. They are for the greater part tall and slender; but their forms are usually shrunken; and among the youngest may be noticed a constant struggle between beauty and wretchedness.

The Aga of Jericho added to our escort a few of his people. We crossed a sandy plain, on which were to be seen, at distant intervals, a few prickly shrubs, and a few plants breathing the most delicate perfume. Several authors think that the crown of thorns of Christ was formed of a branch of the rhamnus, a shrub named by the Arabs *alausegi*, and which is found in great abundance near the Jordan: several volumes have been written either to attack or defend this supposition. Its banks are frequently covered by locusts; the Arabs cook them with great care, and find their flavour excellent; but we were not tempted to taste this dish. Where, alas! are the gardens which once covered these banks? Jericho is left without flowers, and without harvests.

Our party now drew up in a regular line of march, a few of our men forming the advance-guard. The Aga had received notice that a band of Bedouin Arabs had been seen on the preceding

evening, and were to pitch their tents for the night on the opposite bank of the Jordan. Lances were perceived behind a rising ground, and horsemen fleeing in several directions; a part of our escort set off at full speed in pursuit of them.

The banks of the sacred river are lofty, and covered with trees: its water is yellowish, turbid, and of some depth; its breadth is about eighty feet. Charmed with the soft murmurs of the water, to which our ears had been unaccustomed, we joyfully performed the duties of the traveller by ablutions, and brought away several flasks of the holy water we had found so much pleasure in drinking. Our horses experienced some difficulty in crossing the sandy plain which leads to the Dead Sea; our Janissaries and Arabs sung, and discharged their pistols; the chief of the escort, mounted on a superb Arabian horse, was the most dexterous; and we followed the example of our guides. We sometimes paced silently, plunged in reverie, the subject of each of which was no doubt different; and at others, giving the reins to our horses, galloped over these sandy plains, breathing perfumes, and enjoying our independence. In this way we reached the banks of the Dead Sea.

It is said that this sea, or lake, is twenty leagues in length, and about ten leagues in breadth at the widest part. The Arabs formerly tendered their services to travellers, to conduct them to a pillar

coated with bitumen, which they showed as the pillar of salt ; but it is impossible at present to penetrate so far without danger, the Bedouins in the vicinity being in a state of constant warfare with travellers. For the greater part of its extent the Dead Sea stretches north and south. On the western bank were situated the five cities of Sodom, Gomorrha, Adama, Seboyn, and Segor. The Jews are persuaded that, at the coming of the Messiah, these cities, now covered with the waves, will re-appear with all their splendour.

The water of the Dead Sea is troubled, pungent, and bitter. It throws up on its banks pieces of petrified wood, and porous stones in a calcined state. In speaking of it, which they do with the most religious respect, many mysterious things are related by the Arabs concerning it.

We afterwards followed, by the mountains, the route leading to the monastery of Saint Sabas. And never surely was there any sight so dismal and sombre as that of the deep valleys, which are suddenly shut in by a high mountain, perfectly white, and easily to be mistaken, at the decline of day, for an enormous spectre whose office it is to defend the passage : the clefts and caverns represent his features, and the ravines supply the folds of his frightful robe. Mountains of ashes, cones mutilated and thrown down, broken rocks of a capricious and fantastic form :—such were the objects which met the view for the extent of several leagues, until we came to a more

elevated point. This afforded us another sight of the Dead Sea, just as the sun was setting over Arabia Deserta, behind the mountains of Edom.

From this elevation the Dead Sea appeared like a table of lapis lazuli, the golden margin of which was formed by the surrounding mountains.

Still further, the piled rocks resembled, now a fortified city, the walls and buildings of which menaced the starry firmament; and now an amphitheatre having for its spectators and performers kites and vultures; while eagles soared majestically in the air, over their proud domain.

The monastery of Saint Lebas is built in the angle of a rock, on an eminence four hundred feet above the dried torrent of the Cédron, presenting a frightful solitude: the cells of the monks are excavated in the rock a hundred feet above the torrent, in places which appear to be inaccessible. Pigeons, and thousands of hermits formerly inhabited this inauspicious and desolate valley: over the abyss the turtle-doves still take their lonely flight. The space inclosing the immense monastery, near which not a tree, not a plant, nor even the smallest rivulet, is to be seen, is defended by large square towers.

The noble benevolence of Her Majesty's disposition led her at Jerusalem, as at every spot graced with her presence, to render extensive charitable assistance to the needy of every class. To the resident Christians particularly, munificent donations were made, and an investment of

a considerable sum in support of their annual income. Her Majesty's visit to the holy city, her charity, her unaffected piety, and her exemplary and princely demeanour, will be remembered there, while one stone stands on another.

On our first arrival at Jerusalem, Her Majesty with a dignified sense of the faithful and eminent services of M. Bergami, during the perilous scenes of her journey, obtained for him from the Authorities the honourable distinction of a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre. It should be observed, that this faithful officer had already, in consideration of his military character and the high respectability of his introduction to Her Majesty, been invested with the military Order of a Knight of Malta, with the title of Baron della Francia.

On the determination of Her Majesty to quit Jerusalem, on the return to Italy, she determined with a proper feeling of her elevated station and character, the difficulties and dangers of the enterprize, and the services of the officers of her suite, to establish a lasting memorial of this first visit of an European princess to the Holy Land, during six centuries, by the institution of a new Order of knighthood.

This was accordingly executed in due form and with the proper ceremonial a few days before the departure. Her Majesty as Institutor of the Order, named it the Order of St. Caroline, and granted diplomas of the Order to all those officers of state who had accompanied her to Jerusalem,

in token of her approval, and a distinction of honour for their services and fidelity.

In this Her Majesty followed the example and the usual practice of all Royal personages under similar circumstances.

The body of the diploma of the Order of St. Caroline, ran in the following manner. The diploma, of which the following is a copy, is that of Captain Hownam.

“ That Her Majesty had created and constituted a new Order to recompense the faithful Knights who had the honour of accompanying Her Majesty on her pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

“ 1st. This Order shall be given and awarded to those only who have accompanied Her Majesty to Jerusalem, with the exception of the Professor Mochetti, who could not, being prevented by accident, accompany Her Majesty.

“ 2. That Colonel Bartolomo Bergami, Baron of Franchino, Knight of Malta, and also of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, and Equerry of Her Majesty, the Grand Master of this Order, and his children, male and female, may succeed him, and shall have the honour to wear this Order from generation to generation and end to end.

“ 3. The same advantage of wearing this Order is granted to the Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, Mr. William Austin, and to his legitimate children, who shall for ever enjoy the same.

“ 4. To Mr. Joseph Hownam, Captain in the Royal English Navy, and Knight of the Holy Se-

pulchre, and in the suite of Her Majesty, it is also granted to him to enjoy the same Order as a personal favour to him.

“ This honour shall be personal for you, Mr. Joseph Hownam, Captain in the British Navy, and Knight, in the suite of Her Royal Highness, to wear this honour during your life ; the Cross and Patent to be returned at your death to the Grand Master.

“ 5. The Grand Master to wear the Cross of the Order round his neck, suspended from a gold chain ; but the other Knights to suspend the insignia from the button-hole of the coat.

“ 6. The above-mentioned Order to consist of a red cross, with the motto, ‘ *Honi soit qui mal y pense,* ’ to be worn with a riband of lilac and silver, and to be called by the name of the Order of St. Caroline of Jerusalem.”

(Signed)

“ CAROLINE, P. W.

(Undersigned)

“ COL. B. BERGAMI.

&c. &c. &c.”

CHAPTER XLIV.

Her Majesty leaves Jerusalem. — Reflections. — Proceed to Jaffa. — Visit the celebrated Ruins of Ascalon. — Beautiful Scenery of Jaffa. — Her Majesty's Reception. — Departure. — Ascalon. — Its interesting Ruins. — Temple of Venus. — Armour of the Crusaders found amid these Ruins.

AT length on the 17th, Her Majesty quitted Jerusalem, amidst the loud expressions of regret from the classes who had received so many and important marks of her favour and liberality ; and the most assiduous complimentary honours which the Authorities could exhibit consistently with the formalities of Turkish manners. We left Jerusalem, our hearts and minds déeplý impressed with the extraordinary, and in reality wonderful objects which present themselves in that most interesting of all cities of the world ; and with sentiments of true devotional regard, which time can never efface.

We proceeded with the same retinue of guards, &c. towards Jaffa, intending to take the ruins of Ascalon in our route.

There is an extreme difference of temperature between the mountains of Judea and the sea-shore : when it is winter at Jerusalem, the weather is that of spring at Jaffa. We were delighted

at breathing the perfume exhaled by the gardens of oranges and lemons which lie before Jaffa, on the road of the ancient Arimathea. These gardens are planted without symmetry and without art; brooks flow amid rows of trees pressing on each other; the flowers and fruits with which the branches are loaded, make them yield beneath their weight, and cool themselves in the water as it gently murmurs along; while beautiful palms rise like so many minarets above this balmy forest. It is impossible to convey an idea of the pleasure the traveller feels when he penetrates into these groves, after having had his eyes fixed throughout the day on a scorching sand, and his ears struck by the shrill and incessant cries of an Arab population, which seems to be always in a state of threatening revolt.

The Aga of Jaffa anticipated Her Majesty's visit by a present consisting of lambs, rice, corn, poultry, sugar, and coffee; and he received us in a pavilion he had constructed at the sea-side: his manners were cordial and polished, and we soon came to a good understanding. This Aga, by birth a Circassian, was about forty-five years of age: he had been brought to Constantinople when very young, and was purchased by Gezzar, the Pacha of Acre, who made him one of his mamelouks. Having been sent on several difficult missions, he displayed on these occasions great intelligence; and bravery did the rest. Having been appointed governor of Jaffa, after the death

of his patron, he looks forward to independence, and perhaps aspires even to the general government of Syria. This man, possessing a fine figure, active, adroit, and cruel even to ferocity, is capable of not sparing any means to obtain his aim. The territories surrounding Jaffa, Ascalon, and Gaza, are cultivated for his profit; and he possesses exclusively the commerce of this territory.

Our departure from Jaffa was not without pomp: the guns were fired, and numerous horsemen voluntarily joined our escort, to accompany us during a part of our journey. We slept in the open air, beneath a sorry tent, at Jabena, the ancient Jamnia, which was inhabited by a few Arabs only. The whole of this territory is susceptible of a surprising fertility; but the hand of despotism destroys during the day what the dew of heaven has produced.

We soon arrived at Madjedal, a hamlet, distant two miles from the ruins of Ascalon, and from the sea: it is situated in a fine plain, surrounded by a rampart of palms and large aloes. The hedges are formed of hornbeam and the prickly pear interwoven, and are more impenetrable than the thickest wall. It was here, in the plains of Ascalon, that the Crusaders obtained a signal victory over the army of the Sultan of Egypt, the loss of which was immense.

A plain leads to the ruins of Ascalon: this city, which is now without a single inhabitant, is situated on a high hill, in the form of a semi-circle:

the declivity is almost insensible on the land side ; but there is a considerable slope towards the sea, which forms the chord of this arch. The ramparts and gates are standing, and the turret seems to await the watchful sentinel. The streets lead to two squares ; and over a flight of steps, in the interior of a palace, the antelope bounds : in the vast churches no echo is heard, save that of the jackall's cry : large flocks of these animals are assembled in the great square, and they are at present the uncontrolled only rulers of Ascalon.

The Arabs, doubtless impressed by its gloom and awful stillness, make it the abode of evil spirits : they assert that, during the night, lights are often seen passing along, and innumerable voices heard, together with the neighing of horses, the clashing of arms, and the tumultuous shouts of the embattled hosts.

Not far from the Gothic monuments of Ascalon are to be seen the extensive ruins of a temple of Venus : forty lofty columns of rose granite, and capitals and friezes of the finest marble, rise from a deep vault half laid open. A well, having an immense aperture, descends into the bowels of the earth : a part of this great wreck is concealed by fig-trees, palms, and sycamores. A picturesque and philosophical contrast is formed by these Greek ruins, of matchless elegance, with the linked columns which support the dome of a chapel of the Virgin. She presided over this strand, and was without doubt invoked more than once

amid the perils of a stormy coast. On the azured roof an inscription is still legible, written in Gothic characters.

The works of the port are become the sport of the waves: they break furiously, and at a great height, over the rocks, the firm and unshaken bases of these useless towers, and of these deserted turrets.

There once dwelt might and brilliant valour; it was in Ascalon that the elegance of the chivalrous age, and European politeness, were blended with the voluptuous pageantry and all the enjoyments of eastern luxury. There it was that religion, love, and a thirst of glory, wrought the imagination of the warrior to the highest pitch of enthusiasm, and gave birth to those proud achievements which bestow on the history of the time all the *eclat*, and all the charms, of the most sublime fictions of poetry.

The Arab of el-Madjehal, urged by want, is to be occasionally seen engaged in digging among the sands of Ascalon: he surveys with a vacant look the breast-plate, once gilt, which chance has thrown in his way: his squalid child tries to place on his head the helmet which time has half consumed, and raises with difficulty the ponderous sword of the Christian knight.

Coats of mail, the iron head of a lance, or the shattered remains of a buckler, may be found at almost every step. Lady Esther Stanhope has been for some years an inhabitant of Syria, and

has fixed her residence in the small city of Antoura, at the foot of Mount Libanon: her bounties have attached to her the Bedouin Arabs; and it is said that they have every wish to proclaim her Queen, and do homage to her as such. A ceremony which bore a strong resemblance to the coronation of the sovereign Queen of the Desert, was prepared for her at Tadmor, the ancient Palmyra, when she went to visit its ruins; but her modesty led her to refuse this extraordinary triumph.

On Her Majesty's arrival at Jaffa, we embarked without delay, in a polacre vessel with an Arab, or rather a mixed crew, which had been already provided for our conveyance to Italy; and was then stationed in the bay, awaiting our arrival. The wind being favourable, Her Majesty determined to put to sea the same day. It had been Her Majesty's intention to visit Alexandria, and going thence into Egypt, but this design was rendered utterly impracticable by the plague, which was at that time making great ravages there.

CHAPTER XLV.

Her Majesty's Embarkation.—Vessel, and Mode of Equipment.—Nautical Arrangements.—St. Jean D'Acre.—Her Majesty's Vessel finally quits the Coast.—Danger of Pirates.—Precautions.—Rhodes.—Candia.—Detention there by Stress of Weather.—Sketch of the Country.

HER Majesty had now accomplished the great object of her solicitude, reached the extent of her important and memorable travel, consummated what few persons in Her Majesty's situation would have undertaken. Of female travellers we may perhaps affirm, that none, possessing the taste and genius for the enterprise, would have been found with sufficient firmness of purpose and equanimity to pursue it thus effectually and honourably to its conclusion.

Her Majesty quitted Jerusalem amidst the thanks and the regret of all ranks, all sects, and all degrees of its inhabitants; idolized and blessed by the oppressed and poor, for her charitable assistance to their wants; caressed and respected by the powerful, for her princely spirit and courteous demeanour.

At Jaffa Her Majesty embarked with the whole of her suite, on board a polacca, with a mixed crew of Italian and Greek seamen; these circum-

stances, both as to the incommodiousness and small dimensions of the vessel, and the little dependence to be placed on its motley crew in any situation of danger, became sufficiently evident to Her Majesty's attendants, to engage their most serious attention and exertion in their precautionary arrangements of the apartments and accommodation. It should be remembered that Her Majesty had here the advantage to have in her suite two officers of the British Navy, of known professional merit, Captains Flynn and Hownam, whose presence was at this moment indeed, as it had been in every instance of the maritime portion of the journey, of inestimable importance.

The cabin or apartment set out for the accommodation of Her Majesty and her female attendants, was fixed near the centre of the vessel, and an open hatchway formed in the deck immediately over it, which gave instant access to the upper-deck, over a corresponding portion of which was spread the ship's awning; so that the coolness of the breeze might be enjoyed without the oppressive heat of the sun at any time, or, when necessary, which, from the circumstance of there being many horses on board, frequently became imperious, rest might be taken on the upper-deck, as well as in the cabin below it. Around the space so covered with the awning, was a gangway for the passage of the crew.

The vigilance of Her Majesty's naval officers,

for in this situation, so they may now be termed, was of constant importance, as well in the seaman-ship of the vessel as in over-awing the conduct of the ship's company, and in the continual watchfulness for the interruptions of piratical vessels of war, which were much to be dreaded. In those general services, the fidelity and commanding deportment of the Count Bergami were also a great addition to the strength and effect of what may be termed the Guard of Honour: fortunately, however, these military services were not called into action, further than in the constant and unremitting exercise of their professional vigilance.

A heavy gale of wind came on soon after Her Majesty's embarkation, which produced its usual inconvenience to persons not accustomed to the sea. The polacca was beat about during the whole of the first day and the following night; and we were at length compelled to seek the shore to refit. The sea was still rough, with high surges, so that we had great difficulty in reaching the small port of Saint Jean d'Acre.

The high walls of the pier have fallen down in an irregular manner; but a part of the breast-works, surmounted by battlements, are still standing. We entered by a breach, to avoid the surf which covered the mole, the work of the Crusaders, with its foam.

Saint Jean d'Acre, the ancient Ptolemais, is surrounded by high walls and deep moats: the

new fortifications now form a double enclosure, terraced and flanked by bastions. It is also defended by the old ramparts thrown up by the Christians, and by the recent works of European engineers: its form is that of a semicircle, having the sea in front. The waves break on the towers with which the beach is lined.

In this city a mixture of Gothic ruins and modern constructions is every where to be seen: here, a church in an entirely ruinous state meets the view; there, monasteries, a palace, and hospital, alike abandoned; still further, a new, rich, and elegant mosque; minarets, the bases of which rise from amid heaps of rubbish; and, lastly, the seraglio, the gardens of which, laid out in terraces, separate the ramparts. Sycamores, orange-trees, and the finest palms, nod their heads gracefully over this motley assemblage; and this view alone softens the sadness and disgust which a residence at Saint Jean d'Acre inspires.

The streets are narrow and filthy; the houses, built of free-stone, low, huddled, with flat roofs, and small doors, resemble prisons. The terraces of the different habitations communicate with each other by clumsy arcades.

The European consuls reside in the kans, which are large square buildings, having in the centre a court, and which, in times of difficulty, become fortresses. In the interior, the ascent to the upper apartments is by steep and narrow staircases, which scarcely afford a passage to a single person:

three flights of wide corridors, opened in arcades, face the court, in the centre of which is a fountain.

Eight or ten thousand Turks, Arabs, Jews, and Christians, are to be seen parading the streets of Saint Jean d'Acre, and the infected bazars, with an aspect at once savage and sombre. The senses, each in its turn, are disagreeably affected by the most hideous deformities : beings, who seem to have risen from their graves, crawl about half naked, wrapped up in large blankets of a dirty white, striped with black, and the head muffled in rags which serve as a turban. At each step, at the side of the victims of ophthalmia, were to be seen the victims of tyrannous cruelty, either blind, or wretches without a nose, and without ears. This assemblage of men, sluggish, miserable, and disgusting, may be constantly seen lying in the sun beneath the walls of the gardens of the seraglio. Soliman Pacha, who inhabits this palace, seldom stirs abroad to show himself to the public : this successor of Gezzar, deaf to the cries of an unfortunate population, spends his life in myrtle groves, beneath the shade of plantains watered by deep and limpid brooks.

Her Majesty was invited to an audience of the Pacha, which we attended. We found Soliman squatted at one extremity of a sofa embroidered with gold, his officers and mamelouks being all assembled on the occasion : they were silent and attentive, with their hands laid across the breast,

and scarcely dared to smile at the jests of a buffoon, who was, it would seem, a great court favourite. The Pacha seated Her Majesty at his side, and smoked. He politely granted what was asked of him, through the medium of the dragoman. Coffee was served up in gold cups set round with diamonds, with which the pipe and poignard of Soliman were covered. He put but few questions to the retinue; but insisted that we should inspect the new fortifications of Saint Jean d'Acre, and his Arabian breed of horses, which seemed to interest him most particularly. Wherever my curiosity led me, I stopped to make sketches, and, among them, that of Saint Jean d'Acre, at the very spot where this city was unsuccessfully cannonaded by the French troops under Buonaparte. With the help of the English, Gezza Pacha sustained a vigorous and well directed fire, and the most desperate assaults: the capture of Saint Jean d'Acre was to be the signal to sixty thousand Druses to join the French troops; and it is probable that this would have decided the fate of the Turkish empire.

The foreign consuls feel the necessity of affording each other a mutual aid against such a government, and live together accordingly on the most amicable terms.

Her Majesty visited a Greek merchant, who received us in an elegant saloon furnished in the Turkish style: his wife and children, seated on a very low and wide divan, or ottoman, were

dressed in the Turkish costume, with fillets, ornamented with sequins, bound round the head. They wore velvet robes embroidered with gold; and their hair in tresses and perfumed, hung on the shoulders. Two of the young ladies were pretty, but listless, and motionless as statues, insomuch that at first sight one would scarcely have suspected them to be animated beings.

Our vessel refitted, and Her Majesty recovered from the fatigue of the gale we had encountered, we again embarked, and sailed with a fair wind and encouraging weather. The following day, however, the wind again falling, we were in an uncomfortable and dangerous situation, from the heat of the weather, and the constant apprehension of pirates. This state of uncertainty and disagreeable delay continued during the following four or five days, with a few intervals of an enlivening breeze, which, however, seldom lasted more than an hour at a time.

The consequences of the delay thus occasioned now began to shew itself in the usual way in a failure of our provision stores, which obliged us to steer for the island of Rhodes, where we arrived on the 1st of August.

This island presented us with nothing of interest more than has already been communicated to the reader. We replenished our stores, and again put to sea on the morning of the 3d. We had, during the early part of this day, a light and fair breeze, which in the evening became a

heavy storm, in which our seamanship and our patience was once put to a severe test. After buffeting with this obstruction to our progress for twelve hours, under the inconveniences peculiar to a small and crowded vessel, we arrived off the Isle of Candia, where we were once more compelled to take shelter for some days, and make the most pleasant use of the detention, by refreshing ourselves from the heat and fatigues of the vessel by disembarking, and occupying those few days in a hasty view of that interesting island and its peculiarities.

The first chain of Mount Ida, which rises in the form of a pyramid to the south-west of Candia, serves at a distance as a land-mark to navigators who wish to anchor in the harbour of that town. The little island of Dia, situated to the eastward, known to mariners under the name of Stan-Dia, equally concurs to guide their route: it does more; it affords them an asylum in the three roadsteads which it has in its southern quarter.

The harbour of Candia is defended from the north wind by rocks on which has been built a strong jetty parallel to the coast; it is very safe, and might contain from thirty to forty merchant vessels, if it were dug and kept in order. It can at this time receive but eight or ten, and those too must be lightened or unloaded; for there are no more than eight or nine feet of water in the inside of the harbour, and about fifteen at its entrance. The Turks, who enjoy every where

with the indifference of a tenant ; the Turks, who make every thing worse, and never any thing better, suffer it to be choked up from day to day, without employing themselves on the means of clearing it ; which would, nevertheless, be very easy, the bottom being of sand and mud.

In front of the jetty, to the left on entering, are arsenals, which are allowed to fall into decay : these were constructed by the Venetians in 1552, to judge of them from the date put underneath the arms of the Republic. They suffered greatly at the time of the siege of this place by the Turks, in 1667, 1668, and 1669 ; some even have lost a great part of their roof. These arsenals, to the number of ten, are, properly speaking, nothing more than docks, which that industrious and trading people had constructed for building galleys, and for putting them under cover when they were laid up.

From the harbour, the entrance into the town is by a gate, which is shut at night. Walls of a solid construction, a good ditch, and some advanced works, defend this place very well by land. The houses are better built than all those which we have hitherto seen, if we except Scio ; but the population here is not in proportion to its extent. Here are scarcely reckoned ten or twelve thousand Turks, two or three thousand Greeks, and about sixty Jews. The Greeks who inhabited it, before it submitted to the Turks, followed the Venetians at the time of the capitulation, or

made their escape into the country. They came not in past time without trembling, to settle in a town where their existence is incessantly threatened by the Janisaries, and their fortune very frequently invaded by the Pachas.

Candia is situated on a lawn of no great elevation. The ground, supported towards the sea, by a strong wall built on rocks, affords an agreeable walk. Here are seen several pieces of cannon with the arms of Venice, capable of defending by sea the approaches to the place. The seraglio of the Pacha stands on the opposite side, and occupies the site on which was built the palace of the Proveditor. The handsomest churches, damaged by the siege, have been repaired and converted into mosques. The houses constructed by the Venetians have disappeared for a long while: but the fortifications have been carefully kept up, so much importance does the Porte annex to the preservation of the island.

The name of Candia, which this town bears at the present time, is derived from the Saracen word chandax, which signifies entrenchment, because it was in this place that the Saracens entrenched themselves when they came to make the conquest of the island, under the Emperor Michael II. surnamed the stammerer.

In 1654, the Turks got possession of Canea, Retimo, and all the island of Crete; but they were unable to make themselves masters of the forts, and the town of Candia. Mahomet IV. who

was sensible that he should never be the quiet possessor of this important island, as long as the Venetians should occupy the capital, in 1667 sent his vizier Achmet Kuperli with a considerable army, in order to lay siege to it. The Venetians, still masters of the harbour and of the sea, preserved the power of transmitting succours of every kind; and the place, well fortified and vigorously defended, was capable of resisting for a long time all the efforts of the Ottoman empire.

The army of the besiegers had been several times reinforced: already were reckoned upwards of one hundred thousand Turks who had perished at the foot of the walls by the fire of the place, or by the explosion of mines. The Venetians received fresh succours from France, which would undoubtedly have obliged the Turks to retire, when the town, under the command of Morosini, capitulated, through the artifice of a Greek, in the service of the Porte, after a siege of two years and a half, and the loss of thirty thousand men, Venetians, Piedmontese, and French.

The environs of Candia present a few fertile plains, cultivated, and some rising grounds, susceptible of being so. At a little distance to the south is seen an insulated mountain in the form of a pyramid, at the foot of which one passes in going to visit the ruins of Gortyna: the Europeans know it by the name of Jupiter's mountain. To the south-west, Mount Ida, covered with snow almost all the year, throws out, on one side, some

branches towards the town; and, on the other runs to join the mountains of Sphachia, in like manner covered with snow, during eight or nine months of the year.

On the evening of the 4th day after our arrival at this island, we once more ventured on the most uncertain elements, and made sail with a favourable wind for Zante, but after a trip of one day under circumstances as pleasant, or rather as little unpleasant as in our present singularly inconvenient and confined situation, in our small and crowded vessel, we could expect; we found the wind become contrary to our intended course, and were therefore compelled to change our course for Sicily; and by good fortune we made the port of Syracuse without material accident or interruption on the 20th, as it may well be imagined, to Her Majesty's great satisfaction, and to the joy of every member of the suite. Indeed the fatigues and disheartening delays of the latter part of our peregrination, was more severe than any we had experienced, and began to make inroad as well in Her Majesty's hitherto unconquerable health and spirits, as in that of her faithful followers. This was the first Christian community we had beheld during a long time, and was doubly welcome to our hearts and feelings, heightened as they were by such repeated bafflings, and delays of dangerous complexion.

CHAPTER XLVI.

Her Majesty, on her Return to a Christian Country, attends Divine Service in public, to offer Thanksgiving for the Consummation of her perilous Journies by Sea and Land.—Facts and Circumstances relating to the Barbary Pirates.—Put to Sea from Syracuse.—Her Majesty engages the Convoy of an Austrian Frigate.—Catania.—Messina.—Quarantine.—Arrival in the Bay of Naples.—Arrival at Gaeta.—Terracina.—Landing by special Permission of his Holiness, the Pope.—Her Majesty has an Audience of the Pope.—Leaves Rome for Milan.—Route.—Florence.—Bologna.—Modena.—Parma.—Milan.—Arrival at Her Majesty's Villa D' Este.

ON our safe landing in the port of Syracuse, Her Majesty, in the true spirit of piety and humility, free from the trammels and inflation of worldly pride, hastened to throw herself before that Almighty Power which had so manifestly protected her. Her Majesty and her whole suite attended divine service in public, to return thanks for her safety through the perils of her undertaking, for assuredly, it was his all-powerful hand that preserved us in safety from the dangers which had threatened us. We had escaped the plague, the plunderings of banditti, the fear of assassination from fanatical savages, and, what is

perhaps really more formidable than all these,—the pirates. The massacres which took place in Tunis after we left, gave us reason to be thankful for our escape thence, and the fact is well known that five brigs of war were fitted out, from the Goletta, for the express purpose of piracy: these pirates were well aware that Her Majesty had diamonds and considerable sums of money in her possession, and were actually, as we were afterwards informed, in continual pursuit of us. Had they overtaken us, we could not have made any effectual defence, our vessel carrying only six guns, whilst they had, each of them, thirteen.

Her Majesty had always expressed a hope, in opposition to the opinion of her military servants, that these barbarians, if they chanced to come upon us, might be satisfied with the seizure of our property only, which she would in such a case have been well content to have sacrificed. But it was justly apprehended, because it is notoriously their infamous practice, that after having carried off all the valuables, together with all persons whose captivity may either gratify their spleen or revenge, or promise ransom, to massacre the rest, and burn or sink the vessel. Once within their grasp, escape is a miracle. They were always in pursuit of our vessel, and it is difficult to comprehend how we escaped them.

One of the pirate brigs had been captured at Scio, and two others at Saint Jean d'Acre; thus there were two still at sea, and these were com-

mitting great ravages. Whilst we were off Cyprus, an English brig was brought in, which had been taken possession of by these wretches; all the unhappy crew had been decapitated, and the vessel was driven about at the mercy of the sea. When we were between Zante and Candia, one of these corsairs was seen in actual chase of us. Our consternation may be more easily imagined than described! our lights were extinguished to prevent their keeping us in sight during the night, and our course suddenly changed. The precautions happily had their effect, for at day-break, to our great delight, the barbarians were no longer in sight. At the time Her Majesty left Tunis, she was fully informed of the great danger, and most seriously entreated by every one not to go among the islands of the Grecian Archipelago, because they were infested by pirates, even more to be dreaded than the Algerine corsairs. These pirates navigate long and narrow boats with twenty-five or thirty oars: when the breeze amidst the islands dies away, they conceal themselves, and during the obscurity of the night skim and dart along with such rapidity with their oars, and under their black banners, that nothing can escape them which is so unfortunate as to come within their sight. The desperate determination with which they attack vessels of equal or even much superior numerical force, is only equalled by the dauntless intrepidity with which in a bark, frequently not more

sea-worthy than a large canoe, venture for their prey in the most dangerous seas, and in gales which would deter a stout vessel. There is in fact no part of the Archipelago, which those savages will not traverse in these slight and swift boats, and in the most tempestuous weather.

On the 27th Her Majesty put to sea again, but to encounter new dangers. We had been informed that some Algerines were cruising off Sicily, and that they had chased a small vessel into the port of Syracuse; and, Her Majesty therefore engaged an Austrian frigate to convoy us. By an unparalleled and fortunate circumstance, when we passed Catania, these corsairs were themselves short of water, and had gone on shore to procure it, and thus we escaped them once more. As they were then at war with the English, to have made capture of Her Majesty would have been a fine piece of good fortune for them.

At length, on the 31st, we safely entered the Straits of Messina, and in the evening cast anchor in the port. We had flattered ourselves that we should be suffered to land here without performing quarantine, but in vain; on the 7th therefore we again made sail, and, coasting the shores of Calabria, on the 12th came in sight of the Isle of Capri, in the bay of Naples.

The sight of this most beautiful bay, with its many delightful objects, could not but bring with it pleasant associations: after the irksome and

perilous voyage we had struggled through, the bay of Naples, in all its native placidity and brilliancy, appeared to us the most delightful prospect we had beheld.

On the evening of the 13th we quitted the bay of Naples, in a tremendous gale, with thunder and lightning ; but the gale being in our favour, we made what advantage of it we might. On the 14th we came in sight of Gaeta, and arrived at Terracina, the first town of the Roman state.

Her Majesty made an immediate application to the Pope, for his permission to land without performing quarantine, and we proceeded to Capo d'Anzi. The answer of his Holiness reached us early on the morning of the 15th, and we landed, full of gratitude for our escapes, and of anxiety for repose.

On the evening of the 15th we arrived at Rome, little dispirited with our fatigues, now that all actual and threatening dangers had subsided ; and on the 16th Her Majesty was invited to an audience of his Holiness, at the splendid palace of Monte Cavallo, to which Her Majesty's suite had also the honour of an attendance, and to kiss the hand of his Holiness.

The ceremonial of an audience of the Pope is curious and as regards catholics worthy of remark. Whenever he appears in public, or is approached even in private, his person is encircled with reverence and with majesty. In public, a large silver cross raised on high is carried be-

fore him, and a sacred banner; the church bells ring as he passes, and all kneel in his sight. When he officiates at the patriarchal Basilicæ he is carried from his apartments in the adjoining palace to the church in a chair of state, though in the chancel his throne is merely an ancient episcopal chair, raised only a few steps above the seats of the cardinals or clergy. In private, as the pontifical palaces are vast and magnificent, there are perhaps more apartments to be traversed, and greater appearances of splendour in the approach to his person, than in an introduction to any other sovereign. In his anti-chamber, a prelate in full robes is always in waiting, and when the bell rings, the door of the pontifical apartment opens, and the Pope is seen in a chair of state, with a little table before him. The person presented kneels once at the threshold, again in the middle of the room, and lastly, at the feet of the Pontiff, who, according to circumstances, allows him to kiss the cross embroidered on his shoes, or presents his hand to raise him. The Pontiff then converses with him a short time, and dismisses him with some slight present of beads, or medals, as a memorial. The ceremony of genuflexion is repeated, and the doors close.

Her Majesty's safe arrival at Rome was hailed with great joy by the resident nobility, and her immediate and intimate friends; and Her Majesty after receiving a few visits of congratulation, directed, with her usual consideration, eighty

louis d'ors to be distributed to the poor of Rome, as a token of her gratitude to heaven for her prosperous journey and safe return.

Her Majesty departed from Rome on the evening of the 17th, and on the 18th made a short stay at Viterbo. During the night of the 18th, we passed through the town of Sienna, and proceeded on the 19th to Florence. In this lovely and attractive city, Her Majesty made a stay of two days, during which we had again an opportunity of enjoying the delightful views and prospects of the place, but which we need not here repeat.

On the 23d, Her Majesty arrived at Bologna, where a slight indisposition from fatigue compelled a stay of a few days, which afforded us time to make a slight survey of the city, the more desirable as we had not passed through or near this important place in our former journey through Italy; nor, from Her Majesty's expressed intention of devoting some time, immediately on her arrival, to building, beautifying, and general improvement of the Villa D'Este and its vicinity, was there any probability of any journey being projected in the direction of Bologna for some time.

The traveller, as he rolls along the Via Emilia, from Modena to Bologna, amidst scenes of the neatest cultivation and most luxuriant fertility, will recollect that the very fields which spread around him, the very country he is traversing, was the bloody theatre of the last unavailing

efforts of Roman liberty. The interview of the Triumvirs took place in an island formed by the Rhenus, at a little distance from Bologna. As the river is small, and the island observable only on examination, the traveller generally passes without being aware of the circumstance. The stream still retains its ancient name, and is called the Rheno.

From Modena to Bologna, the distance is three stages, about twenty-four miles: about six miles from the former town is Fort Urbano, erected by Pope Urban VIII. to mark and defend the entrance into the ecclesiastical state. Bologna was a Roman colony, though it retains few or no traces of its antiquity, and is a rich, populous, extensive, and most flourishing city. Its history is contained in a few words. First, great and prosperous under its founders, then in the succeeding revolutions of the empire, pillaged, destroyed, and rebuilt; sometimes enslaved, and sometimes free, it underwent and survived the vicissitudes of the barbarous ages. At last, after various contests with the neighbouring states, and with their own tyrants, the inhabitants of Bologna made a voluntary submission to Pope Nicholas III. in 1278, and afterwards to John XXII. in 1327, which they have frequently renewed since, at different periods.

The streets in Bologna are narrow, and the exterior of the public buildings by no means proportioned to the fame and opulence of the city.

The cathedral is a modern edifice, of Roman architecture, but in a bad style; the inside is light, and though it did not appear so to me, is considered by several connoisseurs, as beautiful. One altar erected by the late bishop, of the finest marbles, chastest decorations, and best proportions, cannot fail to attract the eye of the observer; it is exquisite in its kind, and appeared to us almost the only object in the cathedral worth attention. The church of St. Petronius is considered as the principal church. It is gothic, of great extent and antiquity, and though not beautiful, is celebrated, as well for the several grand ceremonies which have been performed in it, such as the coronation of Charles v. by Pope Clement VII. as for the meridian of the famous Astronomer Cassini, traced on its pavement. It was built about the year 440, but rebuilt in a very different style in 1390, and seems still to remain in a great degree unfinished. Of the public buildings of Bologna, the church of La Madonna di S. Luca, deserves a particular visit. This magnificent church stands on a high hill, about five miles from Bologna. It is in the form of a Greek cross, of the corinthian order, and crowned with a dome. As the people of Bologna have a peculiar devotion to the blessed Virgin, and crowds flock from all quarters to this her sanctuary, for their accommodation in all seasons and in all weather, a portico has been carried from the gates of the city up the hill to the very entrance of the tem-

ple, or rather to the square before it. This immense building was raised by the voluntary contributions of persons of every class in Bologna : the richer erected one or more arches, according to their means ; the middling classes gave their pecuniary aid in proportion ; and the poorest insisted on contributing their labour to the grand undertaking. It is in reality a most noble monument of public piety, and alone sufficient to prove that the spirit and magnificence of the ancient Romans still animate the modern Italians, and may, in a fortunate combination of circumstances, once more blaze out in all their pristine glory. The church is of a fine and well-proportioned form, rich in marbles, but overloaded, as we imagined, with ornaments. It is needless to add, that from such an elevation the view is beautiful, lost on one side in the windings of the neighbouring Apennines, and extending on the other over a plain of immense extent, and unparalleled population and fertility.

The two brick towers, *Degli Asinelli* and *Dei Garisendi*, are deformed monuments of a barbarous age, and remarkable only for their unmeaning elevation, and dangerous deviation from the perpendicular. Bologna is decorated with many palaces of vast extent, and some few of noble architecture.

These palaces, and indeed all the churches and public buildings in Bologna, are ornamented with a profusion of paintings by the first Italian

masters. In fact no city in Europe has given more encouragement to painting, or contributed more to its perfection, than Bologna; no one has produced a greater number of illustrious painters, or enjoyed a higher reputation in the art, than its well known school. To perpetuate the skill and the honours of this school, an academy has been established, under the title of the Clementine academy, with a sufficient number of eminent professors to direct, and medals and premiums to animate and reward, the zeal of the young artists. Public instructions are given gratis, models furnished, accommodations supplied, and every possible encouragement afforded to attract scholars, and enable them to develope and perfect their talents. This excellent institution, so well calculated to preserve the reputation of the school of Bologna, originated in the beginning of the last century, and has already produced several artists of considerable reputation; among whom we may rank its first president, Carlo Cignani. The halls and apartments of this academy are very spacious, and form part of the palace belonging to the institution. This latter establishment, one of the most magnificent of the kind in Italy, or perhaps in the world, occupies an immense and very noble edifice, where the various arts and sciences have their respective halls, decorated in a grand style, and furnished with appropriate apparatus.

In the same palace, are a library containing

at least one hundred and fifty thousand volumes, open to the public six days in the week; an observatory, furnished with an excellent astronomical apparatus; a vast chemical laboratory; a cabinet of natural history; an experimental cabinet, with all kinds instruments for physical operations; two halls of architecture, one for the civil, the other for the military branches of this art; a marine hall; a gallery of antiques, another of statues, a third of paintings; a hall of anatomy and midwifery, celebrated for a remarkable collection of wax figures, representing the female form in all the stages, and in all the incidents of parturition. Almost all these halls are adorned with pictures and paintings in fresco, on the wall and ceilings, and form one of the most magnificent abodes ever consecrated to the arts and sciences.

Bologna owes this superb establishment to one of its citizens, General Count Marsigli, who, after having passed many years in the Imperial service, returned to his country, and devoted the remainder of his days, his talents, and his fortune, to the propagation of the arts and sciences in its bosom. He bestowed upon it his valuable collections of every kind, and by his exertions formed a society of men of the first talents and reputation in each art and science, which assumed the name of *Instituto di Bologna*.

An Englishment, accustomed to the rich endowments of his own country, will hear with astonish-

ment, that this grand establishment, so well furnished with all the materials of science, and so well supplied with professors of the first abilities and reputation, does not possess an annual income of seven-hundred pounds a year; and his surprise will increase, when it is added, that the want of a larger income has hitherto been abundantly supplied by the zeal and indefatigable assiduity of the governors and professors.

From the Institution we naturally pass to the University, the glory of Bologna, and equal if not, as the Bolognese pretend, superior in antiquity, and once in reputation, to the most celebrated academies in Europe.

This ancient and interesting city has been styled melancholy, by many; yet, surely with injustice. Its character is certainly serious, but not without a beneficent cheerfulness peculiar to the south. The colonnades, which generally run under the houses on both sides of the streets, give it, perhaps, a monotonous appearance, yet they are a great comfort to the inhabitants. Besides, there are single houses as well as whole rows of them, which are distinguished by their neat columns, fine arches, and just proportions. The former wealth of the city is yet perceptible in its large, strong houses, palaces, and rich churches; and it contains still near 60,000 inhabitants, and among these a numerous, ancient, and rich nobility. Whilst the night of barbarism reigned over all Europe, Bologna became the refuge of science,

and its ancient university was so much visited, that it contained, at one time, 12,000 students. Painting, too, formed here a great and powerful school; in short, every art and science found here, at all times, its votaries and patrons among both sexes. Nor does it bear its surname of fruitful, unjustly; its rich soil produces every thing which is needful for human support. The public garden, a promenade at the end of the city, affords a fine view of the greater part of it, and of its fruitful country. On seeing the numbers of poems posted on almost every corner, or every column in the streets, and which are called forth on trifling occasions, one would think that every inhabitant was a poet. They are, however, only equivalent to the common advertisements among us; but among a people who are almost born with a genius for art, and a knowledge of her forms, they are more readily employed for the common purposes of life, and they make a sonnet with as much facility as people in other countries make a bow.

The chief place of the city, Piazza Maggiore, is surrounded by old buildings, which, without being distinguished, have nevertheless something striking and even grand about them. The Palazzo Publico is a large building which would be more interesting if the bronze statue of Julius II. by M. Angelo, which formerly stood here, was extant. Opposite this is what is called the Palace of King Enzo, which, though old and a little

dilapidated, has yet a venerable appearance. Between these is a fountain, with the famous Neptune of John de Bologna on it, but with very little water. The large church of S. Petronio, with its unfinished front, fills the third side of the square, which is always full of people. On the Piazza Minore are the two steeples of Asinelli and Garisenda. Both are extremely old; the first, above 300 feet high, but scarcely 20 broad, has a very proud appearance. The other is 144 high, but, bending on one side, forms an angle of nine feet out of the perpendicular!

The cathedral of St. Pietro, an edifice of modern architecture, with a profusion of ornaments, contains the last painting of L. Carracci, and Annunciation, painted al fresco, over the high altar. This painting is said to have caused the artist's death, on his perceiving, after the scaffolding had been removed, when no remedy could possibly be applied, that the drapery about the angel's feet did not agree with the position of the feet themselves.

In the old church of San Petrinio Charles V. was crowned, and Cassini the astronomer drew his famous meridian.

In the Madonna di Galliera is a fine picture by Albano. The child Jesus, standing on steps, is looking upwards to a glory, whilst Mary and Joseph are looking up to him. There is in this composition great feeling and tenderness, as well as simplicity.

The church of S. Salvatore is very rich in paintings, but there is one by Garofalo, which far outshines all the others. John the Baptist, as a boy, is seen kneeling before his parents, and, full of holy inspiration, seems about to reveal to them his high destination, which is indicated by the baptism of Jesus, as seen in a distant landscape. A bust of John the Baptist, and a flagellation of Christ, with small figures, are also worthy of notice.

The convent and church of S. Dominico are perhaps the most brilliant in Italy. The tomb of the saint is erect in a splendid chapel of the latter. The body is deposited in a marble coffin, upon which his life and miracles are sculptured in basso-relievos. Two small angels of marble, with candlesticks, are kneeling before this coffin. The one is insignificant, but the other is a ne plus ultra of beauty and tenderness, and this by Michael Angelo the terrible. The fresco painting on the cupola is by Guido, who is buried here. The chairs in the choir are remarkable; at first sight one imagines them to be covered with the most beautiful paintings, but in fact they are artificially composed of wood. This unique work proceeds from two Lombard monks. In the church of St. Paolo the high altar forms a tribune, upon which are two figures above the common size, under a canopy; they represent St. Paul kneeling, and the executioner, in the act of striking off his head, standing behind him. There is a smoky

paradise by L. Carracci, and the salvation of souls from purgatory by the Virgin and the Trinity ; but these are not of so much value, as a small lovely, pious Madona with the infant. There are many other fine paintings, but one in the chapel of Bentivoglio, surpasses all the rest. It is a Madona between angels and saints. After having seen such a performance, and filled with the peace and innocence which it breathes, the stormy and boisterous compositions of other masters appear like a state procession, upon which we turn our backs with indifference.

The galleries of Bologna are very grand. The gallery Marescalessi is very rich. The anti-room contains two beautiful figures painted on the walls, representing Fire and Air ; and a Medea renovating Jason in the bath. As some of the most remarkable paintings, I mention St. Mark examining the Venetian Inquisition, with inscriptions on the pedestal, by Titian. The heads, probably portraits, are beautiful. A portrait of Christ bearing a glass globe ; and a presentation of the Infant in the temple. A kneeling angel in a flowing red drapery, bearing a censer, is attributed to Albert Durer. On a chimney-piece painted al fresco, by Caracci, Watchfulness leaning against a column with the cock. The apostles Peter and Paul are painted with uncommon energy, and bearing an uncommon expression of holiness and dignity. An unfinished painting, with figures almost as large as life, is the Judg-

ment of Solomon; the women and some other figures are remarkably beautiful. One painting of Correggio, represents St. Peter, Margarite, Magdalen, and Leonardus, in a dark wood, in all the charms of this master; but a second one of his is considered as the crown of all his works,—it is Christ sitting in clouds surrounded by a glory and supported by angels. His peaceful countenance, breathing inexpressible mildness and clearness, but at the same time tempered with grandeur and majesty, is surrounded by auburn locks; the upper part of his body is naked, and his arms are half opened, as if to bless and press the whole world to his bosom. A white drapery, with a red shade between the folds, covers his lower parts. There is a warmth and a heavenliness spread over the whole picture, which it is impossible to describe. And when the keeper had purposely nearly darkened the room, a peculiar light seemed to emanate from this wonderful painting. The back-room is distinguished by an admirably executed *Ecce homo* (a bust).

The Scientific Institution of Bologna has been united, since 1714, with the university. The edifice is very regular, and the different collections are, for the most part, very considerable. Near the yard, below, is a hall with instruments and wax preparations for midwifery. In a corridor above are the monuments of professors who once taught experimental philosophy here. The physical apparatus fills six rooms, and the anatomical

two ; among the latter are some famous wax preparations. The cabinet of natural history contains many curious specimens. In the cabinet of minerals there are many volcanic productions and fossil bones. In the anti-room of the library are the portraits of the greatest Bolognese scholars. The library, said to contain 200,000 volumes, is under the superintendence of one of the greatest linguists in Italy. The remaining apartments contain the archæologic museum, presenting specimens of the arts progressively through all ages. One great room is entirely appropriated to the art of the middle ages, ruled, as it were, by the colossal copper statue of some pope of the twelfth century. Another apartment contains utensils and dresses of distant nations ; and the last (dedicated to architecture), plans and elevations of remarkable buildings, and models of columns, famous obelisks, &c.

On the top of the building is an observatory ; and, at a little distance, the botanical garden. Leaving Bologna, which Her Majesty had been induced to visit, because she had wanted opportunity to inspect its remarkable and valuable collections in our former short stay in this part of Italy, Her majesty now proceeded to Modena, which still lay in the general route to Milan. Being cross roads, and in worse condition than the direct ones, this distance occupied us two days, being near forty miles.

The city of Modena presents no traces of

antiquity; in fact, it has been the scene of so many bloody contests, has been so often destroyed, and has so often risen from its ruins, that not only no vestige of its former splendour remains, but it is even uncertain whether it occupies the same site as the ancient city. But whatever might have been its strength and magnificence in ancient times, they have been probably far surpassed by its present prosperity. It is a well built town, its streets are wide, and several of its public edifices, of a noble appearance. Its cathedral is Gothic, and, like most of its churches, rather inferior to the expectation naturally excited by the general features of the town. The ducal palace is of vast size; and though built in a German, that is, in a heavy and fanciful style of architecture, is, on the whole, rather magnificent. It contains several handsome apartments, and, what still more merits the attention of travellers, a gallery of paintings, a noble library, and a numerous collection of pictures by the first masters.

The arts and sciences, but more particularly the latter, have long flourished at Modena, under the fostering care of its Princes of the house of Este, a family so much and so justly celebrated for its generous feelings and noble munificence.

Having remained one day in Modena merely to recruit Her Majesty after the fatigue of travelling, we proceeded without further delay now on the direct route to the city of Parma, in which,

although containing much to admire, we did not detain our progress longer than was sufficient for the common arrangements of our journey, and which did but allow a part of the suite to make a hasty perambulation of it.

The road from Modena to Parma is on the Via Emilia. This road was made about one hundred and eighty-seven years before the Christian era, has been kept in repair, and is still excellent. We crossed over several rivers, and passed through some pretty towns and villages.

The country, as the traveller advances, improves in beauty, and if not in fertility, for that seems scarcely possible, at least, in the neatness and order of cultivation. The Apennines, advancing at every step, present their bold forms to vary the dulness of the plain; hedges and neat enclosures mark the different farms, elms in long rows, garlanded with vines, separate the fields; and villages, each with a magnificent church, enliven the road at every mile.

This city is large, populous, airy and clean, though it cannot boast of any very striking or regular building. The cathedral is Saxon, but is lined in the interior with Roman architecture; its dome is much admired for the beautiful painting with which it is adorned by Corregio. The Baptistery is an octagon, in the same style as the cathedral, cased with marble, and ornamented with various arches and galleries. The Steccata is the most regular church in Parma: it is in the

form of a Greek cross, and not without beauty. The church of the Capuchins is remarkable only for being the burying-place of the celebrated Alexander Farnese, who in consequence of his own directions, lies interred, distinguished only from the vulgar dead by a short epitaph.

The palace is large, but irregular. The library is well furnished: it contains the *Academia de belle Arti*, in which there is a noble hall, adorned with excellent paintings, and several ancient statues found in the ruins of *Valleia*. In this hall, the prince used, during the happier æra of *Parma*, to preside over the assembled academicians, and distribute prizes in the various arts. In the same palace is the celebrated theatre, magnificent in its size, its proportions, its form, and its decorations. It is modelled on the ancient plan, like the Olympic theatre at *Vicentia*, and, like it, but on a much greater scale, adorned with pillars, colonnades, and statues. Unfortunately, either in consequence of the many revolutions of late years, or on account of the difficulty of filling, and the expence of repairing, furnishing, and lighting up such a vast edifice, this theatre, perhaps altogether the noblest in the world, has been so long and so much neglected, that it will probably soon sink into a heap of ruins, and remain only in the plans of artists, and in the descriptions of travellers. But the principal ornament of *Parma*, and its pride and glory, were the numberless masterpieces of *Corregio*, with which its

churches, its palaces, and public halls were once adorned. This celebrated artist, born in a village near Modena, and of course not far from Parma, has spread the charms and enchantments of his pencil over all the great towns that bordered the place of his nativity, and seems to have exerted his wonderful powers in a particular manner for the decoration of this city.

The public walk on the ramparts is extremely pleasing. The country round is well wooded, and the town and territory of Parma, on the whole, is in a flourishing state.

From Parma Her Majesty proceeded still on the Milan road to Placentia, the distance about twenty-five miles, which we accomplished in a few hours, upon a very fine road.

The neighbourhood of Placentia is perhaps more interesting than the town itself, as it has been the theatre of many bloody engagements. The first and most remarkable, occurred shortly after the foundation of the city, about three miles from it, and its scene lies on the banks of the Trebia. But the banks of the Trebia have been the theatre of more contests than one; nor is the last mentioned, though the most illustrious without doubt, either the most bloody or the most decisive. It is well known that a memorable battle between the French and the Russians, under the command of Marshal Suwarrow, was fought on the same spot, the banks of the Trebia, and attended with more important consequences.

It is said to have lasted two days, and to have been supported with the utmost obstinacy on both sides. The Russians, who advanced with their usual firmness and impetuosity, were thrice driven back in dismay : at length the Marshal, with the looks and voice of a fury, led them on to a fourth attack, when they rushed into the bed of the river, and, with horrible shouts and screams, fell once more upon the enemy. Resistance was now overpowered : the French fled in confusion, the banks were strewn with bodies, and the fields covered with fugitives. The consequence of this victory was the immediate deliverance of Italy from the rapacity of the French armies.

The farther we advance towards the east, along the course of the Po, the deeper and more fertile does the soil become ; but at the same time the rivers, which flow at a considerable depth within their beds in the vicinity of the Alps, rise to the level of the surrounding country, as they approach the Adriatic, and the soil is consequently more humid. We accordingly find less corn and more meadow land.

This change is apparent as soon as you reach the environs of Placentia. The size of the farms, and their general management, are the same as in Piedmont ; but the rotation of crops and the sources of profit are different. The wealth of this part of Lombardy consists more in cattle than in corn, and the landscape becomes so much the more beautiful and animated in its appear-

ance. The whole right bank of the Po is planted with magnificent oaks, whose majestic branches, spreading from their lofty trunks, give to this part of the country an air of freshness and verdure which we do not expect to find in Italy. The acorns of these trees are of considerable value to the farmers, as they serve to feed an immense number of pigs; and I have been surprised to observe, that their shade does little or no injury to the crops which grow beneath them; a circumstance which must be attributed to the combined effect of the moisture and fertility of the soil, and of an Italian sun.

On the dairy-farms which border the course of the Po, the Parmasan cheese is made, of which there is so great a consumption all over Italy. These meadows are the most fertile in the world. Being constantly watered, they produce three, and sometimes four crops of hay; but, as they are divided into a great number of small lots, few of the farms are capable of supporting a dairy singly; because this would require the milk of fifty cows at least. It has, therefore, long been the custom for the neighbouring farmers to form themselves into societies, for the purpose of making their cheese together. The milk is carried twice a day to the general depôt, where the dairyman keeps an account of the quantity brought by each person. These accounts are settled every six months by a proportionate division of the cheese.

We passed Cremona, a large and well-built city, adorned with many noble edifices, and advantageously situated on the northern bank of the river Po. Its cathedral, of Gothic, or rather of mixed architecture, was begun in the year 1107, and continued at different periods, but not completely finished till the fourteenth century. Its front is lined with white and red marble, and highly ornamented, though in a singular and fanciful style. It contains several beautiful altars and fine paintings. One chapel in particular merits attention. It is that which is set apart for the preservation of the relics of the primitive martyrs. Its decorations are simple and chaste, its colours soft and pleasing. The ashes of the "sainted dead" repose in urns and sarcophagi, placed in niches in the wall, regularly disposed on each side of the chapel, after the manner of the ancient Roman sepulchres. It is small, but its proportions, form, and furniture, are so appropriate and well combined, that they produce a very beautiful and perfect whole. The Baptistery, which, according to the ancient manner still preserved in many of the great towns of Italy, is a separate building near the cathedral, contains in the centre a font of curious form and workmanship, cut out of one immense block of party-coloured marble. The tower is of great height and singular architecture. The view from it is of great extent and beauty, taking in the town with all its streets; the roads that cross

the country in direct lines, in various directions ; the river Po, winding majestically along, almost close to the walls, and intersecting the immense plains of the Milanese ; the Alps to the north, and the Apennines to the south-west, both covered with snow, and occasionally half veiled from observation by passing clouds. Such was the prospect we beheld from the top of the Torazzo. The public palace, for so the town-hall is not improperly called in Italy, and most of the churches, but more particularly that of St. Pietro al Po, are worthy the curious attention of the traveller.

Her Majesty's arrival at Milan was distinguished with the most marked attentions and the warmest gratulations from the resident nobility ; and after a stay of a few days, we set out for Her Majesty's villa on the Lake of Como, where every preparation had been made for our reception, and where Her Majesty's presence was hailed as the harbinger of prosperity, where she was ever gratefully looked up to as the tutelar genius of the land.

CHAPTER XLVII.

Her Majesty's Arrival at the Villa D'Este—Reflections on the happy Termination of Her Majesty's remarkable Undertaking.—The Improvements projected by Her Majesty for the Embellishment of the Villa, and the general Advantage of the Country.—Her Majesty's Establishment and Suite at the Villa D'Este.—Purchase and Establishment of a rural Villa.—Journey to the Tyrol.

AFTER a week's residence in Milan, Her Majesty and her suite arrived at the Villa D'Este in health, and comparative happiness. The worthy and dignified objects of the arduous undertaking had been accomplished. Her Majesty's mind had been diverted from the change of place from the corroding cares which so incessantly assailed it; many hundreds of unfortunate beings, whose unhappiness lay buried below the ken of general observance, had reason to bless the hour of Her Majesty's appearance, bringing with it, as it ever did to the distressed, substantial kindness and relief: those who had the happiness to serve her, found new ground of attachment and admiration, in her fortitude under circumstances of danger and privation, as well as the noble exhibition of her benevolence: Society was be-

nefited by her example, in the practical lesson on the honourable employment of time, which she gave to every person of equal rank and means.

The Villa D'Este had not been forgotten or neglected during Her Majesty's absence ; before the projected travels were commenced, Her Majesty had completed an extensive plan of improvement in the building itself, the general embellishment, the clearing and laying out of pleasure-grounds, and the forming of plantations. These improvements, as will easily be believed by those who have watched Her Majesty's progress, were not projected in the wild and childish spirit of change, and the disreputable love of bauble embellishment ; but with a becoming sense of propriety in the expenditure of a sufficient income, an amiable recollection of the solid improvement such employment would work in the condition of the neighbouring peasantry ; and a feeling of public spirit, which sought to confer public benefit on the land which promised to afford her the balm of health and contentment.

A new and splendid wing had been added to the villa, in a style of uniformity, and the entire pile of building had undergone a substantial course of repair ; the interior had been painted and embellished in the best style of Italian art, and the whole structure rendered worthy the station of its possessor.

An elegant little theatre had been built and

furnished, for the performance of concerts and dramatic composition, at which the nobility of the vicinity assisted as amateur performers. The gardens were enlarged, and laid out with great taste and effect; and an excellent library was arranged. All this was however exceeded in its general usefulness, if not in its effect, by a spacious and excellent public road of communication between the town of Como and the Villa, and every village and place of public importance on the borders, or in the vicinity of the Lake. In estimating the value of this latter work, it should be understood that previous to this time there had existed no road practicable for carriages of any description; the great and lasting value to the neighbouring country need not be enlarged on.

Her Majesty's establishment and suite now consisted of the same faithful and honourable persons who had accompanied their royal mistress in her dangers and fatigues, (with the exception of one or two unhappy and misguided beings, whose misdeeds we need not now advert to) and now increased in number, rank, and respectability, by many who by various circumstances had been prevented from accompanying the journey.

About a month after our arrival at the Villa D'Este, Her Majesty purchased a small rural establishment and farm, about two miles distant from the city of Milan. This was in fact a rural

Villa, with pasture-land and the necessary offices for the usual rural manufacture of the country; the making of Parmasan cheese. This little Villa was erected in a simple but tasteful style, furnished with elegance, without pomp or superfluity, and its rural economy confided to agricultural servants, composed of the peasantry of the district.

The Villa was situated at the foot of a rising ground of considerable ascent, the base of which was covered with an olive wood; the higher acclivity occupied by the chesnut-tree, whose vigorous verdure formed a pleasing contrast with the pale tint of the olive, and gave an air of delightful quiet and brilliancy to the whole scene. The building itself was of brick, stuccoed, and displayed a justness of proportion and an elegance of form not often seen in more northern climes. It consisted of a single story, with the principal doors and windows in front. It was separated from its lawn by a low wall and a terrace. On this wall were placed vases of simple and elegant form, from the antique, in which were planted aloes, flowers, and young orange-trees. The house itself was entirely covered with vines, so that in summer and autumn it bore the appearance of an elegantly arranged verdant and rural theatre. Her Majesty here gave frequent rural balls and concerts to the nobility of Milan and its neighbourhood.

The winter was spent in this hospitable and

dignified manner; and with the opening of the Spring Her Majesty made a short tour into Germany, passing through Inspruck, and visiting Vienna, and returning thence, after a short stay of ceremony with the Imperial court, by way of Trieste, and thence to Venice.

Shortly after this, Her Majesty made a journey to Rome with her entire suite, where she resided during the summer of that year. At this time Her Majesty was joined by Colonel Oliviera, an Italian gentleman of noble family, who had the honour to be appointed one of Her Majesty's Chamberlains.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

Her Majesty's Tour into Germany.—The Lodesan.—Trent.—The famous Council of Trent.—Savage Scenery.—Halle.—City of Inspruck.—Salt Mines.—Saltzburg.—Vienna.—Return to the Villa D'Este.—Journey to Rome.—Purchase of a Roman Villa.—Return to Como.—Journeys to Switzerland.—Her Majesty determines to quit Italy for England.—Concluding Reflections and Observations.

HER Majesty, now invited by royal and noble persons, determined on a tour to Germany, and a short visit to Vienna, to which city she accordingly proceeded early in the month of March, accompanied by her whole suite of state. The party proceeded by the way of Inspruck, at which city Her Majesty made a stay of three days.

The country on the left bank of the Po is fertile in the highest degree. Situated at the foot of the loftiest mountains of Europe, it displays in the immediate vicinity of their sterile rocks, all the various riches of the creation. The traveller contemplates with awe the Tyrolese Alps, whose naked precipices, lost amidst the clouds and towering towards heaven, seem calculated to withdraw the mind from terrestrial thoughts; while the plain, through which he pursues his easy way, abounds with all that art or nature can contribute to render this life delightful. The sun

beams with a pure effulgence, while lofty trees and innumerable streams refresh and skreen the earth from his parching rays, rendering the harvests ever plenteous, and the meadows ever verdant. And, as if to protect these blessings from every danger, the same hand which formed the mountains, has prepared at their feet natural basins to receive the torrents which fall from them: In these lakes their fury is tranquillized, they assume a steady level, and flow in peaceful waves through the channels which human art has prepared for them. Every thing, even to the air which you breathe, is pure and serene in this delightful region of Upper Italy, bounded by the Alps and by the five lakes, whose exquisite scenery gives additional charms to the beauty of the landscapes.

The finest part of the Milanese is in going to Lodi, by way of Cremona. This province, called the Lodesan, from the name of the former city, is so fertile, and so abundantly supplied with water, that very little corn of any kind is cultivated in it; the spontaneous growth of the soil being found more productive. The meadows, which are irrigated at pleasure, are mown four times in the year, and yield a produce superior to that of the finest corn land.

Owing to the great richness and value of the land, the farms of the Milanese are not very extensive, seldom exceeding from fifty to a hundred acres. They are, however, larger than in Tus-

cany, because grass land requires much less time and attention than the cultivation of corn. The farmers are also richer, from having less expences. One of the principal, consists in the annual purchase of cattle; for, the cows, after the third generation, always degenerate as milkers, and must be replaced by others from Switzerland; from which country all the horses are likewise imported.

On the approach to Trent, the descent becomes more rapid; the river, which glided gently through the valley of Trent, assumes the roughness of a torrent; the defiles become narrower; and the mountains break into rocks and precipices, which occasionally approach the road, sometimes rise perpendicular from it, and now and then hang over it in a tremendous style of majesty. We here passed through Ala, an insignificant little town, in no respect remarkable, except as forming the geographical boundary of Italy.

The same appearances continue for some time, till at length the mountains gradually sink into hills; the hills diminish in height and number, and at last leave an open space beyond the river on the right. In front, however, a round hill presents itself at a little distance, which, as you approach swells in bulk, and opening, just leaves room sufficient for the road, and the river on the right, between two vast perpendicular walls of solid rock, that tower to a prodigious height, and cast a most terrific gloom over the narrow strait

that divides them. As the road leads along a precipice, hanging over the river, without any parapet, it is usual for several countrymen, who live at the entrance of the defile, to attend the carriage of travellers, crowding round it, and thus supporting it in the most dangerous parts of the ascent and descent. A fortification, ruined by the French army, formerly defended this dreadful pass, and must have rendered it completely impregnable.

in the middle of the defile a cleft in the rock on the left affords a vent to a torrent that rushes down the crag, and sometimes sweeps away a part of the road in its passage. After winding through the defile for about half an hour, we turned, and suddenly found ourselves on the plains of the valley of Trent.

The city of Trent is the seat of an archbishop. It is situated in a small but beautiful valley, exposed, however, from its elevation, to intense cold in winter, and, from the reflection of the surrounding mountains, to heat as intense in summer. The town is well built, and has several beautiful palaces. That of the prince bishop contains some very noble apartments, but was much plundered and injured by the French in the late war. The cathedral is a Gothic structure.

But the City of Trent owes its fame neither to its situation nor its edifices, but to the celebrated council held within its walls in the year 1542. It was opened in the cathedral, but held its sessions

in the church of St. Maria Maggiore, where a picture still exists, representing the council sitting in full assembly. The most conspicuous figures are portraits taken from the life. This extraordinary assembly sat with various interruptions, under three successive Popes, during the space of eighteen years. It was convoked by Pope Paul III. and consisted of cardinals, archbishops, bishops, abbots, chiefs of religious orders, representatives of universities, and ambassadors from the Emperor, the Kings of France, Spain and Portugal, the republics of Venice, Genoa, the cantons of Switzerland, German electors, &c. The whole number of persons comprising the general assembly of the council amounted to one thousand.

From Tréنت the road continues to run through a narrow valley, watered by the Adige, and covered with vines upon trellis work, or conducted from tree to tree in garlands; high mountains rise on either side, and the number of neat villages seemed to encrease on either side. A fortress, covering the brow of a steep hill, rises majestically at some distance from the main road. Its situation might seem to render it impregnable, but it has been taken and re-taken several times.

From Bolsano, the road presents no Alpine scenery of much interest.

On a hill not far from this, stands an ancient abbey. The town of Chiusa takes its name from its situation; as the plain in which it stands is terminated by a tremendous defile, whose rocky

sides jut out so far and rise so high as almost to hide the face of heaven ; while the river, contracted to a continual cascade, thunders from steep to steep, hurrying shattered fragments of rock down its eddy, and filling the scene with uproar. The numberless chapels hewn out of the rock on the road, answers the double purposes of devotion and security ; protecting the traveller against the sudden bursts of storm in summer, and the still more sudden and destructive masses of snow that roll from the mountains towards the close of winter. The road which leads to this dell, runs along the edge of a most tremendous precipice, and is so near to it, that from the carriage, the eye, without perceiving the parapet, looks at once into the abyss below, and it is hardly possible to avoid shrinking back with terror. The defile to which the road leads, seems yawning as if ready to swallow up the traveller, and, closing over him as he advances, has less the appearance of a road for living mortals, than of a descent to the infernal regions.

We had now passed the wildest retreats and most savage scenery of the Alps, once the impenetrable abode of fierce tribes of barbarians, and the haunt of associated robbers, who plundered with the numbers, the spirit, and the discipline of armies ; where in ancient times the Roman legions were not unfrequently impeded in their progress, and more than once stripped of their baggage by these desperate mountaineers.

It is indeed fortunate for mankind, that religion has spread her influence over these solitudes, where human laws are of no avail; that in a situation where precaution is impossible, and resistance useless, she spreads her invisible protection over the traveller, and conducts him securely through all the dangers of the way. Impressed with these reflections, he will behold with indulgence, and with interest, the crosses which frequently mark the brow of a precipice, and the little chapels hollowed out of the rock where the road is narrow; he will consider them as so many pledges of his security, and rest assured that as long as the pious mountaineer continues to possess the gentle influences of religion, he will never cease to befriend the traveller, nor to discharge the duties of hospitality.

About five miles north of Inspruck is the town of Hallé, famous for its salt-works; and about four miles on the opposite side stands, embosomed in trees, the castle of Ambras. This edifice is of very ancient date, and its size, form, and furniture are consistent with its date. Its exterior is dignified with turrets, spires, and battlements; and its large halls are hung with spears, shields, and helmets, and are lined with the forms of hostile knights mounted upon their chargers, with visors down and spears couched, as if ready to rush forward in battle. The other apartments contain various natural curiosities, intermixed with gems, medals, and pictures.

We were now arrived at the city of Inspruck. Inspruck is the capital of the Tyrol, the Alpine province of the Austrian empire, and as it was once the residence of a sovereign prince, is still the seat of Government. It possesses some noble edifices, but more remarkable for magnitude than for beauty. The building possessing the greatest claim to notice, is a little chapel erected on a very melancholy and interesting occasion. The emperor Francis I. husband to the celebrated Maria Theresa, died suddenly at Inspruck. He was going to the opera, and while walking through the passage from the palace to the theatre, fell, and instantly expired. The empress, who loved him with unusual tenderness, shortly after raised an altar on the very spot where he fell, and, clearing the space around, erected over it a chapel. Both the altar and the chapel are plain, but extremely beautiful, and a pleasing monument both of the affection and the taste of the illustrious widow. This princess, then in the full bloom of youth and beauty, and the first sovereign in Europe in title and territorial possessions, continued ever after to wear mourning, and refused all subsequent matrimonial overtures, from the most powerful crowned heads.

The salt mines at Halleim, about four miles from Saltzburg, are deservedly celebrated. The entrance is near the summit of a mountain, and the ascent, though over a good road, long and tedious.

At length we reached the summit, and entered the mines by a long subterranean gallery, which terminated in the mouth of the first descent. We there accoutred ourselves in miners' dresses, and slid down five hundred feet, in a manner perfectly safe and commodious. It is managed thus. The shaft may be about four feet broad, and about five feet high, worked above into the form of an arch. The line may diverge about thirty feet in the hundred from the perpendicular. The space in the middle is hollowed and worked into steps. On each side of these steps, at about a foot distance, runs a pole like the side of a ladder. On these poles a miner reclines with his feet extended, so that the poles pass under his kness and under his arms. A traveller places himself behind him in the same posture, but so close, as to rest the inside of his knees on the miner's shoulders. The others follow the example, and form a line, in such a manner, that the one above always rests gently on the shoulders of the one below. Another miner generally goes in the middle, and a third closes the rear. The first miner regulates the motion, and if he finds it necessary to check or stop it entirely, he needs only to put his foot backward, and touch one of the steps behind. The miners carry torches made of the fir-tree. When the line is formed, upon a signal given, the miner undermost lets the ropes loose, (for two ropes run parallel with the poles, and nearly touch them) and glides down with great rapidity.

We suddenly found ourselves in an immense hall, lighted up with a prodigious number of candles. This hall was very long and broad, but extremely low; and as the cieling was flat, unsupported either by pillars or props, and apparently of very crumbling materials, it was natural to feel some apprehension of its giving way. The miners, however, tranquilized us, by assuring us that such accidents never happened, however probable they might appear. The sides were adorned here and there with basso relievos of different bishops, rudely worked in the earth or rock. The lights, as I said above, were numerous; but instead of being reflected from a great variety of spars and shining minerals, which a traveller might naturally expect to find in a salt mine, the blaze falls sullen and dead from the walls, and serves only to shew the thickness of the surrounding gloom. From this hall we passed into a gallery, and thence descended, in the same manner as before, into a second, a third, and a fourth, of nearly the same form and dimensions. These halls are used for the following purpose: the salt is worked from the sides and cieling; then water is let in, and kept confined for some time, after which it is drained away, and the salt remains deposited on the floor.

We quitted the mine with as much facility as we entered. We were placed astride a long bench; one miner moved before to guide, two others were placed behind to push this bench

down a gently inclined plane. After some minutes of rapid motion, we perceived the appearance of a star, which gradually increased upon us, till we were lanced once more into full day. The exit is as picturesque as the entrance is gloomy. It opens under a cliff, clad with brambles growing out of its crevices, and overhung with pines and firs, clinging to the sides, and bending from the brows of the precipice. On one side, a torrent, bursting from the cragg, tumbles from steep to steep, till it engulfs itself in a deep shaded dell; and on the other, far below, stretches the town of Halleim, with its white houses and spire. On our exit, the miners presented each of us with a little box, containing specimens of salt. They were very beautiful in colour and shape, but are not easily preserved, as they crumble into dust by the motion of the carriage, and are dissolved by the least humidity. Our visit to the mines of Halleim was a very pleasant and improving excursion.

We now approached Salzburg, a subalpine city, which is placed as if to guard the entrance into the grand defile which traverses the Alps; and it may be considered, for that reason, as forming one of the out-posts of Italy. The cathedral is built of fine stone, and has two towers in front. It is said to be one of the earliest specimens of Italian architecture in Germany. There are two palaces belonging to the Prince Bishop, in one of which there are several very fine rooms, in the

other a spacious and most magnificent gallery. But the most striking object that Saltzburg presents, is a very noble gateway hewn out of the solid rock, which rises perpendicularly to a very considerable elevation, is crowned with tall and spreading elms, and forms a natural rampart equally strong and beautiful. Through this immense mass of rock, a passage has been opened, three hundred feet in length, thirty in height, and twenty-four in breadth. The situation of this city is, however, its principal beauty and advantage; in a valley watered by the Salza, open only to the north, and enclosed on the other side by hills and mountains of various forms and magnitude. Upon one of these hills, immediately contiguous to the town, stands the citadel, an edifice large and roomy, but ill-supplied, ill-furnished, and ill-supported. But however neglected the citadel may be, its situation is in the highest degree bold and commanding. Behind it, on the eminence, is a beautiful walk; and from an oak near this walk expands a most romantic view, extending over fertile vales, deep dells, rocks and craggs, hills and mountains. The descent from this lofty site is worked in the rock, and formed into regular flights of steps.

Among the mountains in the immediate neighbourhood of the town, the Unterberg is the most conspicuous and extraordinary. Rough, craggy, and wooded, it seems to frown upon the city and vale below; and by its shaggy mass, and dark

sullen appearance, forcibly attracts the attention. Popular tradition, which never fails to select appropriate scenery for its tales, has converted the Unterberg into the haunt of a club of infernal sportsmen. Confined to the bowels of the mountain during day, these spirits are said to fill the cavern with groans and shrieks and yells so loud, as to reach the ear. But at night, the imprisoned spirits are at liberty, and the woods echo with the sound of an infernal trumpet, the bark of hellish dogs, and shouts too deep and loud to proceed from mortal organs. Tradition says, that at midnight blue flames traverse the forests of the Unterberg with the velocity of lightning, and these the popular fears have converted into dogs and sportsmen of fire !

The vulgar notion of this tradition is, that the chief of these restless sportsmen is one of their former bishops, who, like too many of his brethren in ages not very remote, was accustomed to pass in the chace the hours and days which he ought to have devoted to the duties of his holy station. Others pretend that it was a robber who had built a castle amid the fastnesses of the Unterberg, and used to employ his days in pursuing and arresting travellers, ravaging the fields and valleys below, and compelling all the country round to pay him tribute. It would be difficult to decide on this knotty point, both the bishop and the robber seem to have very fair claims to the hellish honours of this infernal chace ; but we

may safely wave the discussion, for the invisible horn has ceased to sound to disturb the slumbers of the peasant, and the infernal pack no longer disturb the silence of the Unterberg, and the spirits of the diabolical chace have either fulfilled the days of their punishment, or are sent to sport in solitudes less liable to human observation. The Unterberg, however, is not the only mountain in Germany which is supposed to be the haunt of infernal hunters; it is a terrific tradition which seems peculiar to German forests.

The city of Saltzburgh is situated in a most romantic and beautiful neighbourhood, in which the curious traveller might spend much time with advantage and pleasure. We ascended the Monksberg, a mighty mass of rock covered with wood, and rising to the north-east of the city, which it overhangs. Below in the valley, lay extended the beautiful city, divided by the Salzach, with its many cupolas and flat roofs, which give it a southern appearance. On the opposite side, the eye is attracted by the woody Friars-hill with its convent; farther on, connected with this, the Geis-hill; and at last the majestic steep Unterberg. Between these beautiful valleys many fine villages are inclosed, and above all, the snowy Alps are seen in the back-ground, their summits gilded by the rays of the sun; while farther down they are encircled by thick clouds. We enjoyed the rapturous prospect for some time, and descended towards the city.

This has a peculiar character of beauty and dignity, completely corresponding with the surrounding objects. It has many fine public buildings and churches, mostly in the modern Italian style, with a cupola above, and covered with marble in front, which is plentifully supplied by the neighbouring quarries. The streets are convenient, and the squares are adorned with beautiful fountains. These charming additions to the southern cities and gardens are but too scarce in those of the north, where they would be particularly desirable to relieve the sameness of their long streets and huge squares, or the melancholy silence of solitary gardens. It is also not the least pleasing sight to see the crowds of maids pressing round the fountain while their buckets are filling. The circumstance of most houses being ornamented with paintings, as is the case in some other cities in the south of Germany and Italy, greatly adds to the beauty of Salzburg. A picture representing the adoration of the kings, over the door of a house in the Linzer-street, is very fine. Salzburg has sometimes been compared with Naples, on account of its architecture, and there are also other things to increase the similarity existing between them. These are, Sigismund's Gate, already mentioned; and close by this another splendid work, the summer riding-school. Three rows of boxes are cut out, with true Roman boldness, from the rock of the same mountain. It remains however now unused, like

the beautiful winter riding-school, and the splendid stables, whose marble cribs and iron racks would not be unworthy of the steeds of Phœbus. It is the same with the other episcopal buildings, which are either unemployed, or used for different purposes.

We went to see the Roman antiquities, which had been a few weeks before accidentally discovered by a labourer about two miles from the village of Loig. He was endeavouring to strike a pole into the ground, and meeting with resistance, he laid part of the ground open, and met with some paintings of great antiquity and value. After some farther digging, one of the most beautiful mosaic pavements was laid open. It represents, in four pictures, the history of Ariadne, her giving the pack of thread to Theseus, his conquest of the Minotaur, his subsequent embarkation, and her abandonment on the rock. The fifth, probably her marriage with Bacchus, is missing. The figures are well drawn, the colours are fresh, and the whole resembling a beautiful carpet, is surrounded by a handsome border. If this was the pavement of a state room, two others which have been cleared near it, belonged to dwelling-rooms, they being of a coarser texture, and containing black figures on a white ground, particularly the one where crescents are joined with a peculiar ease and neatness.

It is supposed that they are remains of the old city of Helfenburg, built at an early period by

the Romans. A castle, at least, existed under the emperor Augustus, to which, under Hadrian, the city was added. It was almost entirely destroyed by the Huns, under Attila, in the fifth century; and that which they had spared was afterwards annihilated, by a savage horde, in one night. Stagnant water afterwards collected on the spot where the flourishing city had been standing, and made a moor of it, which was afterwards called the high-moor. It appears that the remains found belong to that ancient city. This beautiful site, near the high road to Italy, seems to have been selected for the villa of some great personage.

The precious discovery has been secured by a wooden shed, on leaving which we found the country glimmering in the magic light of the evening sun. Only the tops of the mountains were illuminated with a brilliant red, and the stars began to twinkle over them, when we returned to town. The silence of this most beautiful evening was only interrupted by the distant ringing of bells, or the singing of the country people from the hills.

The burying-places of this city are highly curious. One near the ancient convent of St. Peter offers a very peculiar sight. It is a narrow spot, shut in between the convent and a high steep rock. Under an arcade which surrounds the place, a great many marble monuments, paintings, or portraits of the deceased are visible

behind iron railings. Between innumerable tombs, covered with monuments and crosses in the middle of the church-yard, rises a half-ruined small Gothic chapel dedicated to St. Elizabeth. But the most striking object is a chapel, stuck, as it were, against the rock, at a considerable height, and called the Hermitage. Some caves, now inclosed by the chapel, were inhabited about the year 176, by a priest of the name of Maximus, with fifty companions, at the time when the savage tribes approached that country. The holy Severinus, who was then in the vicinity of Passah, had informed him of the approach of the barbarians. But Maximus having delayed his flight till the next day, was surprised during the night, and hung, whilst his companions were thrown down the rock. The caves, in which the mass is celebrated twice a year, and the ground below, are consecrated by the blood of these martyrs.

In the burying-place behind the church of S. Sebastian, in a kind of vestibule, is the monument of Paracelsus, a man exalted by some to the stars, and as violently blamed by others. It is a pyramid bearing his bust and several inscriptions. His portrait is also to be seen on the outside of a house near the bridge, in which he had lived and died. This custom of keeping the memory of a great man constantly before the eyes of the people, and of securing honour to his house, ought to be more prevalent. Among the few instances of it generally known, is the

house of Moliere, in Paris, where his bust, with a plain inscription, is placed over the door. On the other hand, Kant's house, in Königsberg, is changed into a public-house; and Mozart, a native of Salzburg, is buried in Vienna, in an obscure grave; whilst the name of every good citizen is here transmitted to posterity in gold characters, or even by his bust. This churchyard forms a regular square, surrounded by a quiet colonnade, with many fine monuments. But behind a black grating, we observed rows of skulls ranged in compartments, having each the name of the person to whom it belonged, with the day of the death on the forehead. There is also here a chapel in the centre closely surrounded with tombs. Almost upon every tombstone you see recesses cut out, mostly in the shape of hearts, for the reception of holy water, to be sprinkled on the graves by passing friends. Flower-urns are frequent too. A young girl was just changing the faded flowers in one of them for fresh ones, which she richly sprinkled with her tears.

We made a very delightful and singular excursion to a romantic lake and mountain in the neighbourhood of Salzburg. The lake and its surrounding mountains are highly picturesque and astonishing, and the mode of travelling is no less curious: it is performed in small chaises, drawn by stout and hardy dogs!

We began our journey at day-break. The air

was cool, and the snow-covered mountain-tops became gradually illuminated by the first beams of the great celestial orb. The Untersberg in particular, displaying by degrees as we drew nearer, its deep red marble rocks and gloomy woods, formed a beautiful object in the scenery. The branches of this mountain and the Gohl gradually meeting, leave only a narrow passage, through which the river Alme, coming from the King's-lake, forces its way, with considerable noise and foam. In many places the road is secured by beautiful arches (the work of the Bavarian government.) We soon reached Schellenberg, a town surrounded by water, and romantically situated between enormous mountains, covered with dark forests. At last appeared the giant Wazmann, one of the highest Alps in the country, (9089 feet above the sea) with its two horns, containing a bright icy valley between them, called the Gap. At the foot of the woody hills branching from it extends the town of Berchtesgaden. The valley is enchanting. But we hastened by, an hour farther, to reach the Bartholomew or King's-lake, the chief object of our excursion. In the midst of these huge mountains the traveller is suddenly surprised with the sight of this wonderful sheet of bright green, clear, icy water, of about five miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth. We immediately entered one of the small skiffs that are constantly ready on shore, and began the delightful navi-

gation. Near the harbour is a small island, with a statue of St. John Nepomuk. It was only when we had passed this that we could see the whole extent of the lake, with the high mountains that surround it, and which are partly covered with wood, and partly with snow. The back-ground is formed by the enormous mountain the Stuhlwand, at the foot of which the small chateau Bartholomew is built on an island. A great many streams rush down from the mountains, but the King's stream, which, descending from one denominated Konen, joins the lake in the east, afforded a curious spectacle. A great quantity of wood, which had been cut on the mountain, and had accumulated in the stream by means of a flood-gate, was suddenly released by the opening of the latter, when it came down with such a tremendous crash, that the foaming lake was stirred up with a roaring noise, to an extent that even disturbed our boat, although sheltered at some distance in a bay. This silent lake is sometimes enlivened too by the chase; when the bold hunters drive the stag or chamois to its brink, and force them to leap into the watery abyss, where infallible destruction awaits them.

The lake had become smooth again, and we glided over its cool waves in silent admiration. Nothing but the murmuring of the cascades disturbed the deep silence around us. About the middle of the way, in a gap of the mountains, is

a crucifix, with a marble inscription, of which nothing but the words : *Prospera cuncta* (all safe) are yet legible ; a striking expression in this grand amphitheatre of nature ! We landed close by, in a silent bay near the mountain Kessel. Here, in a narrow glen, the Kessel-stream, uniting with another, rushes down from the rocks, sometimes in thundering cascades, sometimes in silver threads. Seats and bridges are placed in different parts of this romantic woodland spot, with an hermitage at the end of it.

We breakfasted in the chateau Bartholomew, in a room hung with representations of enormous salmons. Behind the chateau we went over some beautiful pasture-land to the ice-hill, called the Ice-chapel. It derives its name from a vault of ice which has been hollowed out by a rapid stream, and in which an awful twilight reigns.

We now returned. And it was very hot when we arrived at the inn in Berchtesgaden, where we recruited our strength by a good dinner. For we had yet to see the subterraneous wonders of the salt-mines. We descended to the mine called Francis I., at which we arrived through a passage of some hundred fathoms in length. The actual pit had been sufficiently lighted to show us its awful depth and height. But the lights were soon extinguished, in order to gratify us with a new spectacle. The trains, (by which the salt is got off) were lighted at the same time. And the flash of lightning in this deep darkness,

as well as the terrible reports, long continued by the echoes of the manifold winding passages, produced such an awful effect that we were glad when we saw the light of heaven again. But it was near its decline, and it was completely night when we reached Hallein, where we slept.

The stars had not disappeared when we proceeded the next morning to see the famous waterfall of Golling, which is formed by the Schwarzbach. The first fall, seen from below, about a hundred feet high, comes from a rock, with innumerable steps, into a bason, from which the stream rushes on into the valley. Ascending higher, you arrive at a grotto formed with pieces of rock, into which the stream rushes from above, and where the fall seen from below begins. Still higher is seen the whole mass of water, white with foam, and compressed between the rocks, rushing down the mountain, and falling into that grotto. There are besides innumerable small falls, which, forcing their way through the rocks, are precipitated, like silver rays, into the foaming pool. Beautiful rainbows were quivering in the spray, and the rising sun showed a magic light through the thick branches of the fir-trees, which wrap this hallowed spot in an almost perpetual twilight. Below, in the valley, near the stream, in the midst of the wildest scenery, lie a mill and the cottage of an insane beggar.

On the other side of Golling, on the road to Gastein, are the Ovens. Immense masses of rock,

which, having been precipitated from the neighbouring hills, have so hemmed in and arched over the Salzbach, that the water penetrates but with difficulty through the narrow openings, which are often scarcely a few feet wide. The spectator becomes giddy on looking down those dark abysses, from which, sometimes, a fir-tree stretches forth its gigantic branches.

The villages in the Tyrol are distinguished by low roofs, which meet in obtuse angles at the gable ends, by galleries which run round every story from without, and by the pious mottos and paintings with which they are frequently ornamented. At the back of the houses are the barns, stables, and piles of fire-wood ; and cheerfulness and comfort seem to pervade the whole.

Her Majesty proceeded to Munich, in which she made no stay further than was necessary to acknowledge the attentions and honours paid her by the resident authorities. Her Majesty had not contemplated any stay either at Munich or Vienna ; the principal object being to visit the curious objects in the neighbourhood of Saltzburg and Inspruck. We therefore remained a few days in Vienna, during which Her Majesty was received at the Imperial Court with the honours due to her rank, and returned to Milan by the route of Inspruck, in which city we had yet some interesting matters to examine.

In the church of the Holy Cross, the tomb of

the Emperor Maximilian I. which is the most splendid monument of German grandeur and art, must not be passed over by any traveller; the noble structure is immortal like the personage to whose honour it was raised, and from whose comprehensive mind it originated.

The tomb of the emperor rises in the centre of the church. His statue in the imperial robes is kneeling at the top of it, and at the four corners are sitting the four cardinal virtues. Around the tomb, and between the pillars, are standing twenty-eight colossal figures of royal personages of all ages.

These figures represent the males and females of the family of Hapsburgh, together with some heroes of ancient times, including Godfrey de Bouillon. The solemn attitudes of these figures, their significant countenances, splendid dresses, with their rich drapery, their armour, and in short every accompaniment, calls up the recollection of the heroic middle ages. On the highest cornice of the choir, are twenty-three other small but extremely beautiful statues of saints, of both sexes, that seem to look down on the kneeling emperor; they are placed as if to receive the prayers of the royal personage, and to intercede for him in heaven. And thus this most beautiful and extraordinary monument, with the unexampled number of fifty-one statues, *occupies the whole of the church.*

It had always been the wish of the emperor to be buried in the Tyrol, his favourite country. But he died in Austria, and was therefore buried at Vienna. His grandson, Ferdinand I. however fulfilled the great man's wish. He built the convent and church of the Holy Cross, and erected this grand monument on the spot which his grandfather had selected for his sepulchre. The four sides are divided by sixteen pillars of black marble into compartments, containing, in a double row, twenty-four tablets of the finest Cararian marble, on which the chief achievements of the emperor are represented in basso relievo. The rich imagination of the battles, which is not exhausted by the frequent repetition of the same object, the ease and nobleness of the composition, and the highly-finished execution is astonishing. Even the smallest figures are conspicuously and clearly expressed, although the largest is above one foot high. The emperor appears on every tablet, his face being always a portrait, and the degrees of his age discernible. Costume, arms, horses, architecture, every thing is excellent; even the difference of character of the various nations that are represented, is delineated, and without exaggeration. On the right of the entrance to the church, twenty-five marble steps lead to a chapel of great beauty, and which, on account of the quantity of silver with which it used to be adorned, is still called the silver chapel. Here is the tomb of the Archduke Fer-

dinand II. of Tyrol, and of his beautiful consort Philippine of Augsberg. In a recess of the wall the image of the Archduke, in his state dress, is lying on a very low sarcophagus. In the centre of the wall appears his coat of arms in mosaic, and in front of the sarcophagus all the various arms of the family. Upon four large marble tablets are represented his chief achievements in basso-relievo, with innumerable figures. The most beautiful image of his consort is habited in a shroud, and lies on pillows upon a marble block about three feet high; the front, which is divided by small columns into three compartments, contains an inscription in the middle, and a representation of the acts of charity towards the living and the dead in beautiful basso-relievo.

The streets of Inspruck are in general narrow, but in the part called the New-town, they are of handsome width; stately buildings however abound in every quarter. One of the most remarkable, perhaps, is the old palace of the Counts of Tyrol, with its curiously wrought balcony, a roof entirely gilt, and the whole front covered with stone basso-relievos, representing coats of arms, tournaments, battles, &c.

On our second visit to Inspruck, we had the opportunity of seeing the people in their Sunday dresses, which are curious. The girls among the lower orders in the city are not peculiarly distinguished in their habiliments, but they all wear common round hats of felt, like the men. The

dress of the females in every part of the country is peculiar, but every valley has its own fashion. Besides very broad-brimmed round hats, they wear also another head-dress in winter, consisting of rough worsted pointed caps of a white colour. The dress of the men is light, and convenient for mountaineers and hunters. On their green small hats, turned up on the side, they wear as a trophy of the chase, a heath-cock's feather or the beard of a chamois goat. Over the waistcoat they wear neatly-stitched braces, connected over the chest by a cross-strap, under which it joins the broad leather waist-belt. The breeches only descend as far as the knees, which remain bare, to facilitate their climbing on the rocks ; and below the knees the legs are covered either with gaiters or stockings. The rifle always makes part of their equipment : shooting is heard all day long, and it is on this account that sometimes no birds are to be met with in a whole district. Chamois flesh, partridges, heath-cocks, and other wild fowl, are to be had here at all times.

In a few weeks after our return from this journey, Her Majesty made a trip to Rome, for the benefit of a change of air, under the advice of her physicians ; and after a stay of a few days, finding a beneficial effect, she purchased a beautiful little villa in the vicinity of the city, in which Her Majesty passed several months, dividing her time between the social intercourse of a select circle

of the English, Italian, and foreign nobility ; and frequent short journeys to different parts of Italy not before visited, wherever interesting objects presented themselves. Among these were Signigalia, Ferrara, &c. After Her Majesty's return from Rome, we made journeys into Switzerland by the Alps, to the Glaciers, and other points of interesting scenery which have been before described or adverted to, the intervals being spent in a circle of rational enjoyment in the sequestered and delightful scenes of the Villa D'Este.

Her Majesty's amusements and occupations were now such as might be expected of a high-minded and public spirited Princess, who dealt out charity with an unsparing hand, wheresoever she found deserving objects for it ; whose presence every where diffused an admiration of her genius and enterprise ; whose pursuits were dignified and useful ; whose taste was in the purest mould of refinement ; whose judgement was as mature and solid, as her powers of apprehension were quick, and her determinations resolved ; and whose dignity of manners and indescribable attractions, were equalled only by her sweetness of temper and excellence of heart.

The circumstances which at length drew Her Majesty from her dignified retirement, and induced her to place herself in the proud fearlessness of conscious innocence before the people of England, being essentially distinct from

the object of this work, and having arrived at that important epoch of Her Majesty's life, I respectfully close my labours. And with a perfect conviction of its propriety, I say (with reference to Her Majesty's travels) to every English woman possessed of equal means,

“GO THOU AND DO LIKEWISE.”

THE END.



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